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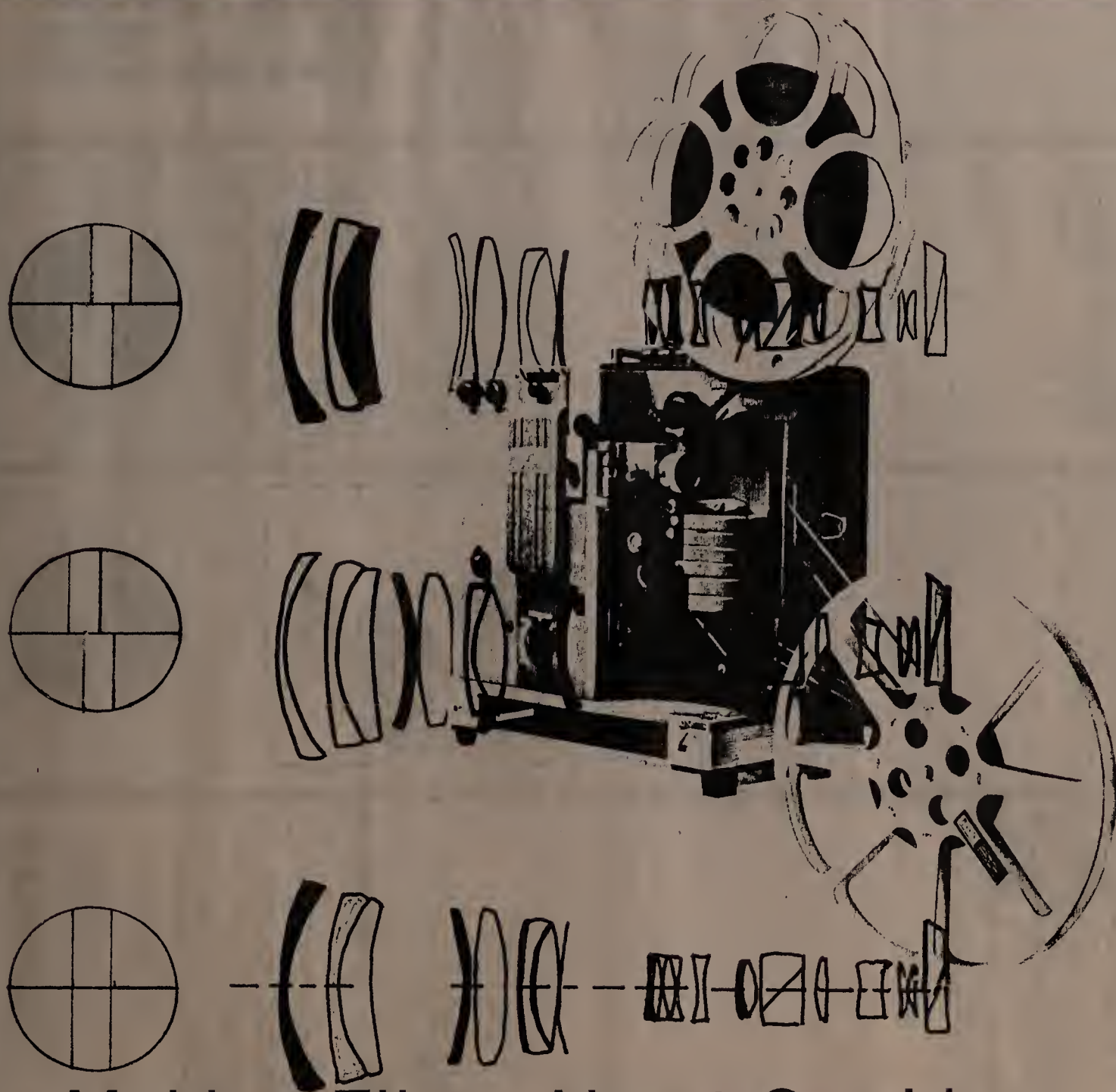
May 21, 1983

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Gay Community News

THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

BIPAD: 65498



Making Films About Our Lives

Anti-Gay Bulletin Issued by Wire Service
Gay Choruses Snubbed by Catholic Church
Gay Sex Legal in Badger State!
AIDS Update
New York Assembly Punts Rights Bill

GayCommunityNews

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Penalty Raised for Sex with Minors

Wisconsin Decriminalizes Consensual Sex

By Loie Hayes

MADISON — The Wisconsin legislature recently decriminalized all private sexual activity between consenting adults, excluding sex for money. The consenting adults bill, A.B. 250, passed the Assembly on April 21, the Senate on May 3 and was signed into law by Governor Anthony Earl on May 5. The bill's speedy passage, however, did not allow time to prevent the adoption of an amendment which raises the penalty for sexual intercourse with a 16 or 17 year old from a misdemeanor to a felony.

The amendment was pushed through the Senate by a conservative coalition, then returned to the Assembly for ratification before it

could be sent to the Governor. Rep. David Clarenbach (D-Madison), the bill's sponsor and primary supporter in the Assembly, explained to *GCN*, "Politically, we could not hold the votes for the 3 or 4 weeks it would have taken to defeat the amendment."

A last minute handwritten effort on the Senate floor, the amendment makes sex with a consenting minor a more serious crime than some categories of sexual assault. Clarenbach is confident it will be repealed by a rider on another bill within the month. "Even its author realizes they made a mistake," he said.

During the decriminalization

campaign, organizers tried to emphasize that A.B. 250 will protect unmarried heterosexual people as well as lesbians and gay men. In testimony before the Assembly, Eunice Edgar, director of the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union, stated that more than 90 couples have been threatened or prosecuted under the old laws against sex outside of marriage; almost all those couples have been heterosexual. Edgar told *GCN* that in particular "these anti-fornication laws have been used as harassment against poor people who are co-habiting."

Gay bath house owners and managers and their patrons in Milwaukee have also been harassed un-

der anti-sex laws. Edgar believes that the new law will probably protect bath house patrons who engage in sex behind closed doors but that "party rooms" or other sexual activity between more than two people might not be protected. An attempt was made to amend A.B. 250 to further protect bath house patrons but that effort was not successful.

The most vocal opposition to the bill came from fundamentalist religious leaders. Rev. Richard Pritchard of the Heritage Congregational Church asked legislators if they would permit "consenting gladiators" or "consenting suicide" and compared the homosexual "condition" to the "disease" of alcoholism.

The bill was supported by the leaders of many mainstream churches, including Margery Mathews, the only woman in the nation to hold the office of bishop in the United Methodist Church.

In addition to the churches and the Wisconsin Civil Liberties Union, support, especially

from the League of Women Voters and the Wisconsin Women's Network, added credibility to the bill, according to Brooks Eggerton, staff member of *Out!* newspaper.

The Wisconsin Lesbian/Gay Network succeeded in organizing much rural support for the bill. Starting just a few weeks before the bill was to be voted on, the Lesbian/Gay Network activated its phone tree starting with contact people in small towns around the state.

Petition and letter writing campaign organizers spoke at private parties and staffed tables in gay bars. Sandra Lipke, co-director of the Lesbian/Gay Network told *GCN* that they helped people write letters to their representatives, then addressed and stamped the envelopes for them. "We'd get as many as 100 letters from a bar. People were so grateful. They were thanking us for asking them to write," said Lipke.

Wisconsin joins some 25 other states which have decriminalized sex between consenting adults. Last year, it became the only state in the country to outlaw all discrimination based on sexual preference.

— filed from Boston

New York State Gay Rights Bill Defeated

By Peg Byron

ALBANY — The good news is that the debate on the New York state gay rights bill on May 9 did not touch on the fall of Rome or bestiality, much to the relief of gay rights activists. However, the Democratic-controlled State Assembly dropped the bill with a 78-59 rollcall vote. Support came from a mix of upstate and downstate legislators, Democrats and Republicans.

The bill had reached a floor vote in Albany, only the second time in its twelve year history, due to enlivened efforts by the New York State Lesbian and Gay Political Lobby for the past two years. Their strategy this year, said New York member Richard May, was to "use the voting record to help our lobbying and political campaign efforts for next year [an election year]."

The Lobby's next project is the gay custody rights bill, 1146A, already passed by the Childcare Committee. Last week's vote on the comprehensive bill will be used to predict its chances for passage.

"We'll take a head count next week to see if pols will vote differently on the custody issue," an aide to Assemblyman Mark Allen Siegel told *GCN*. "Now we have information we didn't have before." But on the custody rights bill strategy, the aide added, "We don't feel it would be worth it to have another failure on the floor."

Votes on one bill, however, may not transfer to the other civil rights proposal. One co-sponsor of the custody bill, Barbara Patton of Nassau County, voted "no" on the gay rights measure, which covered housing, jobs, and education.

Long Island Democrat Jerry Kramer cast a surprise vote against the gay rights bill, and as head of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, he probably carried other votes with him. Kramer shared the headtable with presidential contender Fritz Mondale at the Fund for Human Dignity's Waldorf-Astoria dinner last September. Assembly Speaker Stanley Fink backed the measure, like Mayor Ed Koch of New York City, without arm-twisting.

"In addition to supporters and opponents having to go on record with their positions on gay rights, this year's efforts showed we were

serious about the bill," Albany lobbyist Susan Russell said.

The bill had won an easy victory in the Government Operations Committee, whose upstate chairman spoke out in favor of it, whereas last year he voted against it. The debate, overall, "did not sink into the depths we've experienced," Russell said.

Co-sponsor Steve Sanders, (D-Manhattan) said, "I re-read the transcript of the 1977 debate and I can tell you [the 1983 debate] was at a very high level. The previous debate compared the social denigration gay rights would incur to the fall of Rome. Others mentioned a concern that the right to be gay would lead to more licentiousness, such as fornication with animals."

Douglas Hikind, representing an Orthodox Jewish section of Brooklyn, warned this year that other cities could become like San Francisco. He reportedly quoted an article from *GCN* that this legislation "is only a first step" toward erotic liberation.

As Sanders said, "Not many are debating against (this bill) on the merits, which shows that it's a matter of people feeling that they might lose the next election because of a vote on gay rights."

The Lobby has improved gay visibility with upstate legislators. Many noted the progress in upstate cities like Binghamton has gotten state Senate leader and arch-homophobe Warren Anderson "talking to us," thanks to the Broom County Gay Alliance and a lesbian organization, Herizon.

Sanders told *GCN* that opposition to the bill seemed unorganized and the Catholic Church had only issued a memo against the civil rights measure. The next step, said Sanders, "is to convince politicians that it is not politically damaging and that there are many rewards to supporting the gay community."

The Lobby, which includes all five of the state Democratic clubs and a dozen other organizations, will meet in Binghamton June 5 to evaluate the past year and plan strategies for next year. They can be reached at P.O. Box 932, Albany, NY 12201 or by calling (212) 757-7434 or (716) 271-0321.

— filed from New York



AP Resists Gay Clause In Labor Negotiations

By John Roberts

NEW YORK — The Associated Press (AP), the world's largest print and broadcast news service, has repeatedly rejected proposals from its reporters' union, the Wire Service Guild, for a contract clause prohibiting discrimination against gay people. (See *GCN*, Vol.10, No.33.) In response to a similar request from a union representing technical personnel, United Telegraph Workers (UTW), AP has now issued a bulletin that makes it clear why AP's gay employees need anti-discrimination protection.

In the bulletin, AP asks: Would AP have to protect "child molesters and rapists" if it adopted the clause? And, might a male transvestite — which AP incorrectly identified as "a male homosexual in woman's clothing" — show up as the AP correspondent for the White House?

The employee bulletin was posted in AP newsrooms around the country on May 4 in an attempt to show that the unions involved were pursuing a political agenda and ignoring the wage and benefit concerns of the union membership.

AP has 140 news bureaus around the world with 1,275 employees covered by the Wire Service Guild contract. About 85 percent of American daily newspapers and radio stations carry AP dispatches and even the television networks rely on a daily AP news calendar to schedule coverage of events.

On March 3, the Wire Service sent out a press release, including comments by Guild president William Morrissey, to about 350 newspapers and radio stations, most of them gay or feminist. Included in the release were copies of an internal AP memo that suggested that AP sales representatives present AP's intransigence on the

sexual preference issue as a positive selling point in discussions with potential AP subscribers. Articles about the AP's homophobic position then began appearing in gay papers around the country, with several papers urging that readers write to Keith Fuller with copies of letters sent to local media carrying AP dispatches.

That campaign was apparently successful, since in the May 4 bulletin AP complains that, "as a result of the Guild's campaign, Fuller, Pendergast, AP members [subscribers] and others have received numerous letters and telephone calls from homosexual groups protesting the company's position." But, the bulletin also noted that AP's labor relations and personnel policy "would not be influenced by outside personnel or organizations."

At the end of April, the Wire Service Guild announced it would seek authorization from its membership to call a strike since AP has made no major concessions in recent informal talks.

Pending the strike vote, the negotiations will continue and the union expects to press the demand for a sexual preference nondiscrimination clause yet again.

"The company's reaction to our demand is totally out of touch with the twentieth century," said union spokesman Eric Kramer, an employee of Associated Press. "Their attitude makes it difficult to achieve our demand, but we will continue to press the issue in whatever avenues are open to us in the future."

At the same time, talks between AP and the United Telegraph Workers continue under a June 18 contract expiration deadline. ITW has dropped its demand for a sexual

preference clause. There has been talk of the two unions conducting coordinated contract negotiations, and it seems likely that the Wire Service Guild will set its strike deadline to coincide with the UTW contract expiration date.

The Newspaper Guild has taken an interest in the AP negotiations partly because its locals in San Francisco, Oakland and Southern Ontario have been active in seeking sexual preference clauses.

Anna Padia, human rights coordinator for the Newspaper Guild, expressed amazement when she heard of AP's May 4 bulletin. "This is an excellent example of the real lack of information on this issue," she stated.

Padia said that of the 203 contracts covered by the Guild, only 19 include sexual preference nondiscrimination clauses. Both San Francisco papers, the *Chronicle* and the *Examiner*, have rejected such clauses, as has the New York *Times*. Padia noted that sexual preference clauses in existence have rarely been used, mostly because gay employees of news organizations were unaware they existed.

AP's gay employees have not been standing idly by as sexual preference became an issue in contract talks. Dave Walter, a reporter for AP Radio and former contributor to the Washington *Blade*, said that "The union took on this issue without any demonstrable concern from the membership. If the union isn't able to get the clause, it won't be for lack of trying."

In a letter published in the Wire Service Guild's newsletter, the *Wireporter*, Walter and two other gay employees write that "it's hard for us to understand how the management of an organization so

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News Notes

quote of the week

"Meanwhile, and for strictly prophylactic purposes, male homosexuals should be persuaded to change their ways. By all accounts, fears of acquired immune deficiency have already had a profound effect in cities where homosexuality is frequent. The pathetic promiscuity of male homosexuals is the most obvious threat to public health, but is probably no more serious now than it was before homosexuality ceased to be illegal. The use of substances such as amyl nitrate to assist the mechanics of male homosexuality, but which appear by accident to be immunosuppressants as well, should be discouraged. The fear of AIDS will no doubt help."

—An article entitled "No Need for Panic About AIDS" which appeared in the "News and Views" section of *Nature* magazine, Vol. 302, April 28, 1983.

dyke olympix held in north carolina

PITTSBORO, NC — About 100 North Carolina lesbians attended the Second Annual Dyke Olympix held in Pittsboro April 29—May 1. Participants competed in traditional events like weightlifting and footraces, and also tested their skills at things like water balloon throwing and "pass the fruit." In the last event, players pass pieces of fruit from one to another using body parts other than their hands. Organizers had hoped for a larger crowd this year, but report that in spite of that, the weekend was a great success.

gay scholarship established at stanford

STANFORD — The Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford University (G.L.A.S.) has finally established its medical school scholarship for a student who "has shown a commitment to serving the gay community." G.L.A.S. conducted a fundraising campaign netting \$2,040 which they presented to the University for the scholarship fund.

Originally, a Florida physician had donated \$500 to the school to be awarded to an openly gay student in the medical school. The administration turned the gift down because they "should not award scholarships based on declarations of faith." The G.L.A.S. scholarship is separate from the earlier offer and does not require that the recipient be a gay student.

The G.L.A.S. has provided the school with guidelines by which a student could be identified as having commitment to the gay community. The guidelines specify involvement with a gay organization, pursuit of a course of study related to service to the gay community or research leading to improvement of health care for gay men and lesbians.

G.L.A.S. was congratulated on its "energy and innovation in expanding upon the idea of a scholarship" for service to the gay community in a letter from the University's president, Donald Kennedy.

charges for dressing like a woman dropped

HEMPSTEAD, NY — A transsexual who was arrested in Hempstead on charges of masquerading as a woman has had all charges against her dismissed, according to the *Long Island Connection*.

Pat Smith was charged after an incident in which she was shot by a New York City Transit Authority police officer. The officer was acquitted, but Smith found herself in court, forced to explain her mode of dress at the time of the shooting.

A specialist in gender identification, Dr. Kathleen Degan of Manhattan, testified that Smith is a transsexual, not a transvestite. Degan said that Smith, a pre-operative transsexual, is required to dress like a woman for two years prior to her sex change operation.

toronto cops at it again

TORONTO — The Back Door Gym and Sauna was raided by the Toronto Metropolitan Police after a two-year lull in bathhouse raids. Nine patrons were arrested in the April 20 raid, according to the *Gay Niagra News*.

In this raid, unlike the 1981 bathhouse raids during which hundreds of men were arrested, police were polite and nonviolent. Men who were in rooms by themselves or who were lifting weights or watching television were not arrested.

Activists have observed that this change of tactics signals a more efficient harassment technique which might lead to a greater number of actual convictions. In the 1981 raids, 87 percent of the "found-ins" were acquitted of bawdy house charges, due in part to the inability of the police to identify the people they had arrested.

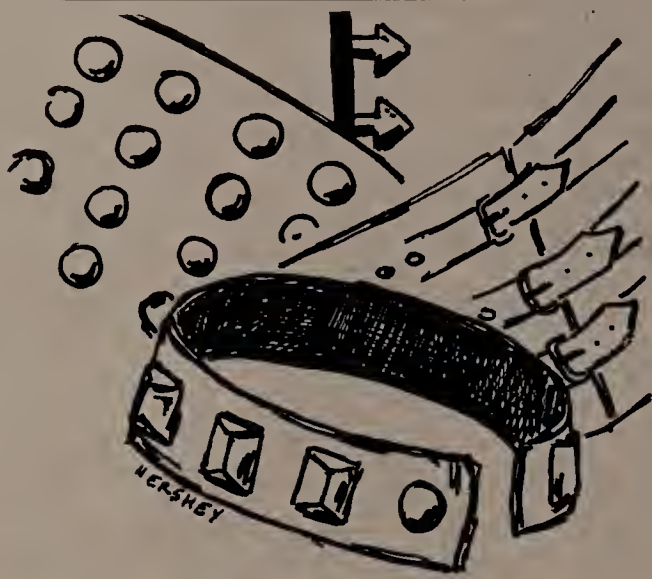
politician pays for anti-gay vote

NEW YORK — The only Manhattan member of the City Council to vote against bringing the gay civil rights bill before the full council has been ousted as chairman of the Democratic County Executive Committee, according to the *New York Native*.

In a coup engineering by three openly gay district leaders, Frederick Samuel was ousted by the executive committee in a 185-30 vote on April 13. Samuel's loyalty to the Democratic Party was questioned as a result of his failure to support the discharge motion on March 8. Samuel had previously been called upon by the party to do "everything possible" to support the bill.

Samuel immediately obtained a court restraining order to freeze the executive committee action, although he has not said when he will take his case before the courts.

Ken Sherrill, district leader of the Upper West Side, noting that politicians fear the consequences of voting for a gay rights bill, said, "I think it's important for politicians to learn there are negative consequences if they vote against us. There are people who will stand up for our rights."



studded armbands 'dangerous weapons'?

BOSTON — Next time you're dressing for your hot Friday night date and you reach for your leather studded cockring that you wear as a bracelet or armband, consider this: the studded armband you use for decoration makes you vulnerable to arrest and prosecution for carrying a dangerous weapon. Yes! Under a Massachusetts law enacted last July, studded leather armbands were classified as "dangerous weapons" and the wearer can be charged with either a felony or a misdemeanor, depending on the circumstances of the "crime."

task force head questioned about forced resignation of boozier

WASHINGTON — In a meeting with Virginia Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force, black gay activists said that the forced resignation of Mel Boozier was unfair and strengthened the perception that the Task Force is insensitive to the concerns of the country's black gays, according to the *Washington Blade*.

On April 20, Apuzzo was asked for specific reasons for Boozier's release. Boozier was the former NGTF Director of Civil Rights Advocacy and staffed the Washington office of the Task Force.

Apuzzo repeated her assertion that Boozier did not "work well programmatically with the Gay Rights National Lobby," headed by Steve Endean.

Boozier then challenged Apuzzo to present a single instance in which he had hampered the National Lobby or Endean and to name other local gay leaders with whom Boozier could not get along. Apuzzo said again it was Endean and the Lobby with whom Boozier had had problems. It was noted that most of the congressional support for the gay rights bill comes from urban areas that now have black mayors or large black populations, and that national gay groups like NGTF appear to be alienating large numbers of black gays — a group that is becoming more politically active.

Phillip Pannell, a member of the Coalition of Black Gays and the D.C. Human Rights Commission, proposed three objectives, to which Apuzzo agreed, to help curtail racial discrimination in the gay community. NGTF should: urge bars to stop discriminatory carding; decline contributions from businesses which clearly "have shown to discriminate;" and urge that bars and businesses discontinue the display of "symbols of oppression," such as confederate flags.

gunman released after threatening activist

WASHINGTON — A gunman who threatened a Washington gay activist was released from custody two hours after he was arrested when an assistant U.S. attorney refused to prosecute the case, according to the *Washington Blade*.

An official with the U.S. attorney's office later said that the decision not to prosecute the case was based on "incomplete information" and that a judicial summons for future prosecution of Paul Franklin Buck would be sought.

Buck had knocked on the door of the D.C. Gay Community Center and pointed a pistol at Jeff Levi, the Washington staffer of the National Gay Task Force. Levi slammed the door in Buck's face and immediately called the police, who arrested Buck. He was charged with assault with a deadly weapon, but then was released from custody by the unidentified assistant attorney.

Buck, who claims to have threatened Levi to demonstrate "how easy it is to kill a homosexual," returned to the Community Center the next day again to try to locate Levi. This, in particular, infuriated D.C. gay activists and Levi, though unharmed, reported that he is shaken by the "apparent disinterest of authorities to investigate this and other crimes against gay people."

This latest inaction by the U.S. Attorney's office is one of a series of cases of anti-gay violence in the District either dropped or not prosecuted at all. Joe Tom Easley, an attorney and president of the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, said, "This is simply outrageous. I think the U.S. Attorney's office has a lot of explaining to do."

navy officer faces discharge for AIDS test request

OAKLAND — An Oakland-based Navy petty officer faces a discharge because he requested a blood test for AIDS, according to the *Long Island Connection*.

Petty Officer Second Class William Kerr says that he went to his naval physician to request the test because he suspected he had contracted AIDS while working in an operating room. He was diagnosed as having hepatitis and after a three-week recuperation, returned to work where he was presented with discharge papers.

illinois prisoners' group

CHICAGO — The Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force will form a new group to advocate for the rights of lesbian and gay prisoners in Illinois. The IGLTF Sexual Minority Prisoners Committee will work to alleviate abusive and unconstitutional conditions that prisoners often endure in confinement. The group hopes to secure the rights of lesbian and gay prisoners to: have equal access to drug and alcohol abuse programs, preferred prison jobs, work release programs and parole; form gay prison clubs for the purpose of establishing rapport with outside community members; receive lesbian and gay publications.

They would like to hear from other organizations who are doing similar work. Most importantly they are trying to let gay prisoners in Illinois know that they exist so they can be in touch with each other. Write them at Sexual Minority Prisoners support Committee, IGLTF, 615 W. Wellington, Chicago, IL 60657, or call (312) 975-0707.

spring warning

BOSTON — Local attorneys report that the annual spring round-up by Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) police has begun. Arrests have picked up at Revere Beach and the Fellsway in Medford, both traditional cruising areas for gay men.

Most of the arrests have been made by plainclothes MDC police working undercover, an enforcement procedure which often not only borders on entrapment, but also results in felony charges of "indecent assault and battery" (on the undercover cop) rather than the usual misdemeanor charge of "lewd and lascivious behavior."

Arrests have also been reported in the men's rooms at Filene's department store at Downtown Crossing. Plainclothes store detectives have been monitoring activity in the stalls and arresting men on "lewd and lascivious" charges.

AP

Continued from page 1

steeped in concern for accuracy can rely on such vicious stereotypes. AP's attitude demonstrates why gay men and lesbians who work for AP need to know that their sexual orientation will not affect their job evaluations in any way whatever. As long as AP fails to protect

its gay employees and fails to present issues of interest to gays fairly and comprehensively, it should expect to see letters and telegrams on this subject."

The letter closes with a call to gay AP employees to write to the Wire Service Guild about forming a gay

caucus within the union, to "demonstrate that there are gay people at AP who need protection from management prejudice and want the same employment rights as any other employee." Such a caucus would mark the first time gay newpeople had organized

within their union to press for a sexual preference clause and better news coverage of gay issues.

Individuals wishing to contact Associated Press about its news and personnel policies may do so by writing to Keith Fuller, President, The Associated Press, 50 Rocke-

fuller Plaza, NY, NY 10020. Fuller's phone number is (212) 621-1770. Carbons of such letters should be sent to local AP subscribers, such as newspapers, radio and TV stations, since AP is particularly sensitive to the opinions of its members.

New Studies Further Speculation on AIDS

By Larry Goldsmith

While the search for a cure to the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) goes on, there has been no shortage of speculation. Various reports published in medical and scientific journals in recent weeks have suggested a number of possible yet unconfirmed explanations of the often-fatal disease now affecting nearly 1400 people. Researchers have also examined the possibility that the syndrome, thought by many to be spread by sexual and other intimate contact, might also be passed to children through routine household contact and by mothers with AIDS.

A report by James Oleske and eight co-workers in the May 6, 1983 edition of the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* cites the cases of eight children from the Newark, N.J. metropolitan area born into families with recognized risks for AIDS. All eight children had unexplained immunodeficiencies, some of which caused the "opportunistic" infections characteristic of AIDS. Four of the children have died.

"Until recently, AIDS seemed to be limited to adults, predominantly in those with aberrant life-styles or exposure to blood products," reports Oleske *et al.* "It seems, however, that the epidemiology of AIDS may now have taken an ominous new turn, with otherwise 'normal' infants and children as additional victims."

Of the eight children, one had healthy parents with no AIDS risk factors except Haitian extraction. Another child, an identical twin with a mother described as "a pro-

stitute and occasional drug user," showed symptoms of immunodeficiency while her twin did not.

One child with AIDS-like symptoms has a father who uses intravenous drugs. "His paternal uncle," according to the report, "a household contact, is homosexual and a drug abuser who has been diagnosed as having AIDS."

The authors suggest the possibility that "children living in high-risk households are susceptible to AIDS and that sexual contact, drug abuse, or exposure to blood products is not necessary for disease transmission."

Dr. Eric Hanson, medical director of the Fenway Community Health Center, takes issue with Oleske's conclusions.

"There isn't a lot of evidence out of the article as far as I can see that there was transmission through casual contact," Hanson said. "The fact that there haven't been any identifiable cases of casual transmission among people who have AIDS or hospital workers or whatever indicate that the disease is probably transmitted by intimate contact rather than casual contact."

Criticism of Oleske's article has also called attention to the fact that a positive diagnosis of AIDS is very difficult to make in children, who are susceptible to a variety of other, congenital, immune disorders. And six of the eight children in Oleske's study had mothers at high risk for AIDS, suggesting that the syndrome may have been transmitted *in utero*.

An article in the same issue of *JAMA* by Dr. Arye Rubinstein and

ten other researchers suggests that immune disorders bearing some similarity to AIDS can be transmitted from promiscuous and drug-addicted mothers to fetuses in the womb. That report describes seven children in New York City diagnosed with immune deficiencies. All seven children showed an abnormally inverted ratio of "helper" to "suppressor" T-cells, cells which help the body fight off certain kinds of infection. Although such an inversion also occurs in people with AIDS, the existence of the inversion does not by itself constitute AIDS.

All seven children were also born to promiscuous and intravenous drug-addicted mothers. Rubinstein and his co-workers suggest that their evidence may indicate an immunodeficiency transmitted by the mothers to their children in the womb. Although the possible connection with AIDS is unclear, the researchers note that the cases have occurred "in a geographical area in which an epidemic of AIDS is occurring in i.v. drug abusers. Moreover, several mothers manifest prodromal [preliminary] or end-stage AIDS, which suggests a link between these children and the adult syndrome."

A third article, by Joseph Sonnabend and two co-workers, suggests that "multiple factors, rather than a novel virus, probably induce AIDS in male homosexuals." The researchers claim that "an unprecedented level of promiscuity has developed during the past decade in large urban areas such as Greenwich Village." Resultant recurrent infections with

cytomegalovirus (CMV), a herpes virus, and exposure to sperm "are likely major causative factors of AIDS," Sonnabend claims.

Sonnabend and his co-workers admit their hypothesis fails to explain why AIDS also affects Haitians, hemophiliacs, intravenous drug users and others. Nevertheless, they recommend "restriction of sexual activity to the fewest numbers of sexual partners possible and use of condoms... for preventing and reversing AIDS."

One organism currently under study by researchers favoring the novel-virus hypothesis is human T-cell leukemia virus, known as HTLV. Dr. Myron Essex, a researcher at the Harvard School of Public Health, has reportedly found HTLV antibodies in blood samples from up to 40 percent of 75 AIDS patients. One researcher told the *Boston Globe* that the antibodies could possibly be missing from the other AIDS patients because their immune systems stopped functioning before antibodies could be produced.

Two other considerations have generated interest in a possible link between HTLV and AIDS. Feline leukemia, a disorder in cats bearing some similarity to AIDS in humans, is caused by a virus related to HTLV. In addition, AIDS has affected not only gay men but Haitians; HTLV is fairly common in the Caribbean, but relatively rare in the United States. Scientists have stressed, however, that the evidence is still preliminary and that a connection between HTLV and AIDS

has yet to be proven.

The work of Essex and related research by Dr. Robert Gallo of the National Cancer Institute, will appear in the May 20 issue of *Science* magazine.

Not all the research on AIDS is going into discovering the cause of the syndrome, however. At hospitals in New York and Boston, doctors are using the experimental drug interferon in an attempt to fight the often-fatal infections and cancers developed by AIDS patients.

At Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York, Dr. Susan Krown and colleagues have used interferon to treat 12 AIDS patients afflicted with Kaposi's Sarcoma. Eight of the patients showed a positive response to the treatments, and in three the cancer went into remission. Six of the patients have died, however.

In Boston, researchers at Beth Israel Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital will soon take part in a federal program to treat AIDS with interferon.

The use of interferon, a virus-fighting substance produced naturally by the body, has been somewhat successful in temporarily pushing the immune system of AIDS patients to fight off infections. But, reported Krown in an article in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, "We do not have evidence in this study that interferon consistently or permanently reverses the underlying immunological defects that characterize AIDS."

Church and Choruses Clash on Both Coasts

By Loie Hayes

The Catholic Church has come into conflict with gay choral groups on both coasts in the last month. In Washington, D.C. a Catholic chorus agreed to sing with the chorus from the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), only to be told by their pastor less than two weeks before the concert that they could not perform. In San Francisco the Gay Men's Chorale had a contract for the use of a Catholic church but just four days before the concert the Archbishop forbade their use of the building.

In Washington, The MCC choir asked the choir of St. Augustine's parish to join them in a joint concert to benefit the "music ministry" of MCC. St. Augustine's was to receive \$300 of the profit. St. Augustine's choir was ready to perform until a priest from another parish, Robert Authur, began a campaign to pressure St. Augustine's pastor, John Mudd, to cancel his choir's participation in the concert. Mudd had not even known about the concert. He told *GCN*, "My motives [for cancelling] were varied. I dealt with it to avoid conflict."

Another priest living at St. Augustine's, Raymond Kemp, described the parish and Mudd as progressive but unable to withstand the conservative pressure within the archdiocese. Kemp told *GCN* "The fireball from the right would have been greater than the fireball from the left."

According to Mudd and Kemp, Archbishop James Hickey, who has refused to meet with any gay Catholics, did not know about the controversy until after the decision to withdraw from the concert had been made. Jim Dealy, executive secretary of Dignity, a national gay Catholic organization, believes that Mudd made his decision "trying to avoid something that would put him or his choir in conflict with the Archbishop."

Jay Cormier, a spokesperson for

the Archbishop, said that Hickey "supports" Mudd's decision. In explaining the church's position, Cormier made an "analogy between a Catholic choir singing with a gay choir and a Catholic choir singing with a group which supports and finances abortions."

When questioned by *GCN* about frequent Catholic participation in ecumenical services with other churches, many of whose teachings directly contradict Catholic doctrine, Cormier responded, "The distinctions [between the major churches] are pretty well drawn. They [the distinctions] are pretty clear to people."

MCC pastor Larry Uhrig disagreed, "The choir of St. Augustine's has sung with Baptist choirs and the Baptist Church does not agree with the Catholic position on birth control."

In San Francisco, a gay chorus had a run-in once before with Archbishop John Quinn. In 1980 a concert of the Gay Men's Chorus was to take place in a Catholic church, but the Archbishop ordered the concert cancelled at the last moment. Dick Kramer, the director of the Chorus, and now, of the Chorale, sued and won an out-of-court settlement of \$5000. Kramer says he will sue again. He believes the Chorale lost revenue because the concert had to be moved with so little notice.

Robert Pfisterer, pastor of St. Boniface where the concert was to take place, had hoped the concert would provide a sign of "healing between the Catholic Church and the gay community. I thought the Archbishop would let it go by but I miscalculated." Pfisterer is a member of the Task Force on Gay/Lesbian Issues, a sub-committee of the Archdiocesan Commission on Social Justice, in San Francisco.

Caught somewhat in the middle are the gay Catholics themselves. Dignity, the gay Catholic group,

has not been involved in either incident, but both incidents raise questions about gay men and lesbians in the church.

Catholic doctrine forbids all sex outside of marriage; since gays cannot marry in the Catholic Church, neither may they have sex. Stephen Emigh of the San Francisco Dignity summed up for *GCN* the church's position, "It's O.K. to have homosexual feelings but it's not O.K. to act on them." Abstinence is the only officially sanctioned sexual choice for the completely devout gay Catholic.

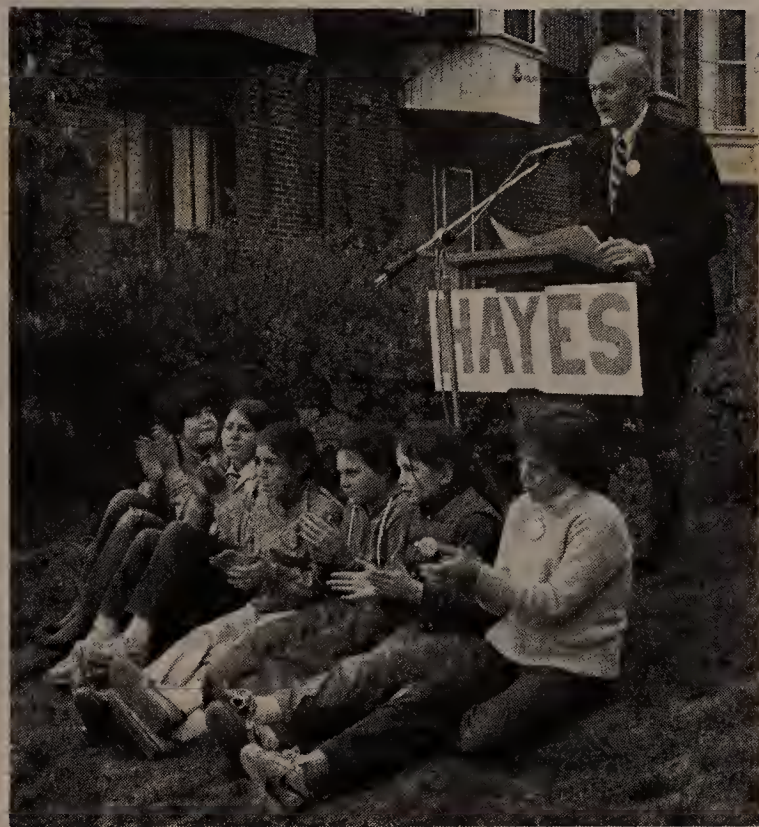
The Catholic Task Force on Gay/Lesbian Issues has made it clear that this position should be changed. In 1982 the Task Force published a progressive report entitled "Homosexuality and Social Justice" which was accepted as a working document by the Archdiocesan Commission on Social Justice.

Archbishop Quinn has tried to have the Task Force removed from the Commission but his proposal was voted down by lay members of the Commission's Board. A forum to discuss implementation of the report's recommendations on May 7 was attended by approximately 150 people, according to Pfisterer.

Stephen Emigh says the San Francisco Dignity chapter has around 350 members. He sees the group as "taking a low profile; we don't try to break down the doors to get into the church." Emigh thinks Quinn would "love to wake up some day and find all of us gone" but instead "we keep quietly working away."

Washington Dignity is also winning some small concessions from their Archbishop Hickey, in the form of guidelines for pastoral ministry to gays. Jim Dealy does not expect any substantive change to come with Hickey's statement but even the existence of those guidelines will be a small step forward.

— filed from Boston



Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — Assisted by a line of young supporters, Chris Hayes, a South End union organizer and community activist, announced his candidacy on May 10 for the District 2 city council seat. The district includes the heavily gay South End and Bay Village, as well as South Boston, Chinatown and a part of downtown. Other candidates are inveterate South Boston busing opponent Jimmy Kelly and Mike Taylor, a South Boston "moderate."

"There is no room in my life for intolerance or discrimination against any groups," Hayes said, "and I will fight against any violation of people's human, civil or individual rights." South End resident Ann Maguire, vice-chairperson of the Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance, officiated at the announcement ceremony.

CORRECTIONS

In Vol. 10, No. 41, overzealous editing obscured details in two news stories. In the story about the Joplin, MO townsfolk picketing the gay bar, Billy's II, the bar owner, Billy Kurkendall, was not identified. In the Vassar harassment story on page 3, it was not explained that Michael Feldman and other students had received unsigned threatening notes which appeared to have been written by a child or an adult obscuring her or his handwriting.

Pride!

SHOW THE WORLD YOUR GAY PRIDE!!

Send b/w photos and a short summary of your community's gay pride celebration to the News Editor. Include a name and phone number to contact for more details. Deadline is June 28. Mail to: *GCN News Editor*, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111.

Community Voices

frats: sth

Friends,

The lock-step, bump-and-grind parade of fraternity jocks—each followed by a butt-fucker and at risk of a dick in his ear and mouth—observed by Ann Matter at the University of Pennsylvania (5-14-83 GCN letter) is indeed fascinating and perplexing.

I observed behavior not dissimilar as a freshman at the Catholic University of America in 1967-68, where I attended—with young women, of course—several fraternity “smokers.” In a suite adjoining my shared room at C.U. were two jock-frat pledges: one who shaved all his body hair and walked the corridor at night in his girlfriend's bikini underbriefs, the other who had all his hair tarred by frat boys who shaved each other's asses.

Neither I nor my best friend at C.U. pledged frats. Nor did my gay friends. However, a number of our ostensibly-straight friends did. Years later I learned that my best friend—who later still fell, jumped, or was pushed to his death—was during our freshman year a practicing homosexual and had plenty of sex with frat pledges.

In his coming-out book, *Take off the Masks*, Malcom Boyd describes the “exercises in homosexual sadomasochism and voyeurism” he observed during fraternity initiation rituals. Father Boyd tells about one of his fraternity brothers, an apparently wonderful young man, who years later committed suicide after being discovered, allegedly, kissing a male officer in the back seat of a military car during World War II.

In his marvelous anthology, *Sex: True Homosexual Experiences from STH Writers*, Boyd McDonald provides four enlightening accounts of what he calls “life among the ‘straight’ queers” from data “supplied by John Barton, who collects them from correspondents and gives them to various periodicals for anonymous publication.” One of these accounts has naked “slave” pledges kneeling at urinals to breakfast upon “corn flakes liberally soaked with piss.” Another even more bizarre account was related “by a beautiful guy whom I loved and who killed himself a few years ago.”

Lionel Tiger, in his 1969 book, *Men in Groups*, discusses initiations and secret societies at length under the rubric of men courting men. Professor Tiger points out that secret societies serving as agents of social control “play upon the fear of the uninitiated,” and those not formally supporting the authority structure include groups which exploit “the weakness of others.”

Summing up, young lesbians and gay men would be well advised to steer clear of sororities and fraternities. And, for God's sake, if you're a young gay man: Get screened for hepatitis B, and vaccinated for it if you are not already immune!

Yours,
John Birmingham III
Cambridge, Massachusetts

GCN Wants to Be at Your Gay Pride Festivities... but we need your help! If you are interested in passing out 100, 200, or more copies of GCN at your Pride rally or parade, please contact us today. Urvashi c/o GCN 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111. 617-426-4469.

Volunteer!

The AIDS Action Committee is looking for volunteers for their soon-to-be installed hotline. To receive an application and notice of upcoming training session, call 536-4995.

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prisoner feelings

Dear Friends,

I am sending something that you just might find worth publishing. A literary masterpiece it is not. Just a little of the feeling and torment that exists in even here, one of the “better” California prisons.

If you were to ask me to what purpose I send this, I could not answer. Maybe to show the “outside” world that a prisoner has feelings and can hurt just like anyone else; maybe just to let a little of the pain out of me; maybe in the hopes of finding somebody that can reach out and understand, and, who won't play games with me or use me. (Yes, that happens to insiders too, as I am sure you are aware.) Maybe a combination of all of these.

Somebody says something out of the way like “cocksucker,” “faggot,” “queer,” or any of over a thousand other epithets, and I hurt inside. I see a program on television about some orphaned kid getting adopted, a family solving some problem, or anything similar, and I hurt inside. I see two people in love; dancing; holding hands; a gentle kiss, or other forms of affection, and I hurt inside.

What are the thoughts that go along with these hurts? Self-incrimination because I am a cocksucker, faggot, queer, child-molester (even though the young boy was sixteen). Guilt, shame.

Knowing that however “society” or any other person or group classifies paedophilia, I cannot accept it within myself because of all the fucking trouble it leads to. Damn all the I'm Ok, You're Ok or self-esteem ideas. It boils down to two facts: I have the desires, and the desires lead to places like this unless I repress them, which leads to even more problems.

Do I want a lover, father, and a son rolled into one? I don't know. I do know that in a lot of ways I am like a little kid myself wanting approval or at least attention. Yet, I want a son to raise; to take camping, to the beach, to show how to use a whetstone. Yet again, enter my own feelings. Would I possibly become sexually attracted to my own son and be unable to handle my attractions to the

point where I would hurt another person that I cared deeply about? I couldn't risk that.

Not only would the internal pressures be there, but also the external ones because of my record and past actions. I have nobody to blame but myself.

Usually, when somebody does or says something to hurt me, I put on my “Pagliacci facade” and keep the hurt inside, but, once in awhile, I want to hurt back. I want to lash out and make them hurt as much as I do.

Maybe I haven't fully grown yet emotionally. I still want to be a little kid without the problems and responsibilities of the adult life. I want to be held and feel secure. I want to feel that there is someone or something for me to cling to. To feel that there is more to life than pain and frustration.

Not too long ago, I was sitting out on the yard with a friend who has since left and we were talking about some of my feelings. He put his hand on my shoulder and it was like the release of an overburdened dam. I thought “He cares enough to listen” and I put my head on his shoulder and just started crying. It felt good to be held and just be able to let go. I didn't give a damn about what anybody on the yard, the tower, or the cop thought at the time, even though in this place it is a grievous crime to show any affection or caring for another human being.

I need somebody—I am too tired of being alone. I need somebody to turn to who will understand the feelings when words are not necessary or possible. I need to be able to relax. I need some semblance of peace, quiet and order in my life.

I have never learned to fully deal with the pressures of the human race and I grow more tired each day of the games, fronts and lies that are a daily function of life in this hell-hole.

Maybe I can find that special “someone”—God knows that I need him.

Stafford B. Bright
P.O. Box AE-1146
San Luis Obispo, CA 93409

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Odyssey of a Unicorn

By Nancy Walker

Last night I told my sother, "I may be arrested tomorrow." She said, OK, just let me know when you want me to pick you up." Nothing flaps her, nothing. Well, almost nothing. The time she lost Henry, the mystery pet, she flapped a little. I fairly shook off all my feathers, but that's another story.

At our monthly meeting yesterday, Cindy Patton announced that there was to be a wee bit of a demonstration in front of our old digs at 22 Bromfield Street this morning (May 3, 1983) because the city was going to formally designate our old building as a historic landmark, thereby making it safe from demolition. We thought it might be relevant to let the public, and particularly the city big wigs, know what else that particular piece of architecture represented in the lives and careers of gay liberationists, so we determined to meet at the site at 10:45 AM, fifteen minutes before the city's scheduled affair, to establish the fact that we were not interrupting anything. (Our legal counsel, bless her heart, was waiting with bated telephone for any emergency call that might come her way.)

I told the staff that I would find a way to get out of work at the appropriate moment and meet them, since I work only five minutes away from our old, dear departed office. As luck would have it, my boss was to be at an all-day meeting away from our office, so I knew she wouldn't present a problem, and I was perfectly delighted when her assistant popped in earlier than I expected. She is a friend, and to be trusted, so I told her my plans and said, "I may not be back. I may wind up in jail." She wasn't too concerned either, having put in some time in her youth as a protester against many of the evils we all detest. I told her when I expected to leave and she thought that was fine. Then I proceeded to begin a Unicorn column. Suddenly at 10:58, my friend looked up from her desk and asked, "Did you go yet?" "O, god," said I, "I'm late, what am I gonna do?" "Go," was

her reasonable reply.

So off I ran, umbrella in hand. Run is something I just don't do. Walk is difficult. Run is impossible. I ran, hoping the staff would still be there. And they were, holding delightfully apt posters in front of them and chanting, "Gay liberation can't be burned, GCN has returned."

The funny thing I noticed, though, was that there were no city officials, and no crowd. We had been double-crossed by the weather. The big shots heard the report about rain and switched the ceremonies from Bromfield Street to the nearby Orpheum Theater. So, there we were, rain impending, with little or no audience. At 11:05 we marched ourselves over to the Orpheum and into the lobby where we were greeted by two burly policemen who told us to leave. Nobody moved. Nobody said anything. No cute porcine epithets, no smart cracks, no nothing. We just all stood there. Our own press people and other media folks took pictures.

I could feel the sweat breaking out all over. I've never been to jail, and I've heard the cuisine leaves a lot to be desired. The cop said, "Leave the premises." Nobody moved. Nobody said anything. Then the cop asked a second officer to tell us to leave the premises; he may have been a security guard for the theater, I don't know. He said, "Leave the premises." Then the first policeman threatened, "If you don't leave, I'll arrest you." Nobody moved. I thought, "If they stay, I'm staying, but who's gonna do the classifieds?" You think of the damndest things at such moments when your life passes before you and you wish you had better sense than to get mixed up with demonstrations before lunch. The policeman issued what he claimed was a final warning. There was a long pause and then someone gave the word for us to leave.

We were allowed to demonstrate outside the theater, which we did. And then the rains came, torrentially. I remembered the first demon-

stration I had ever involved myself in. It was in Ottawa in 1971 and it poured then. We didn't have any experience so we had cardboard signs and paint that ran when wet, so everything dissolved and fell apart, but it was an unforgettable event.

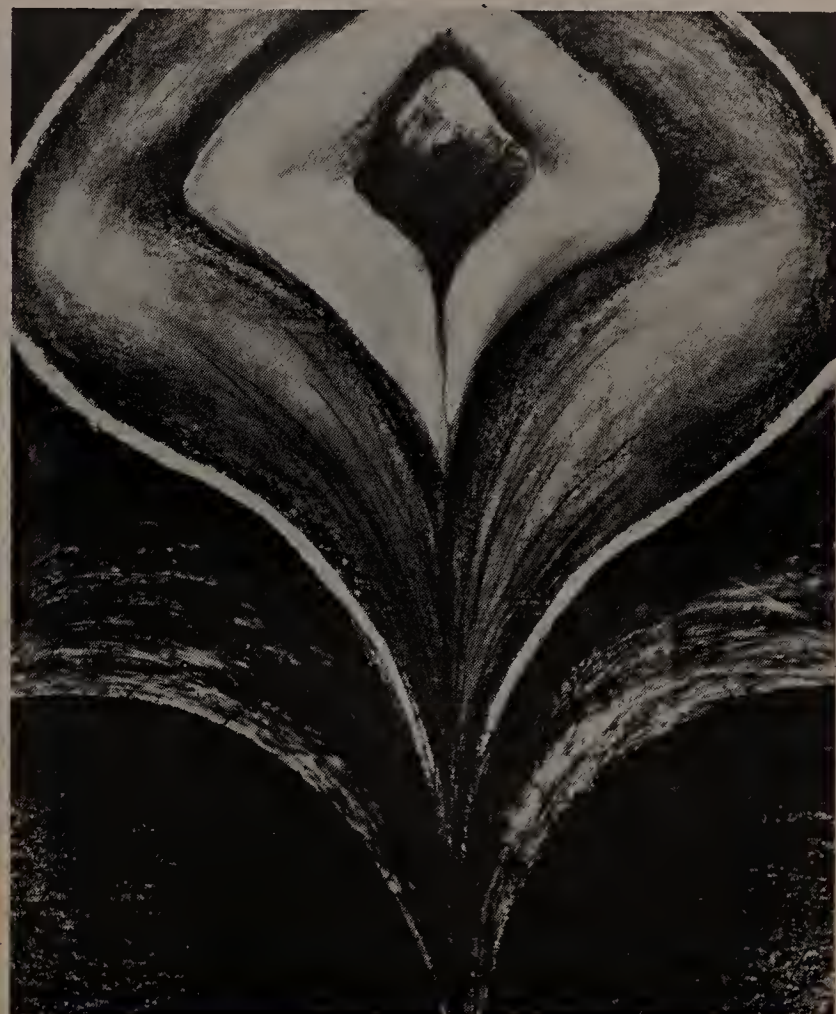
This morning, however, we were war veterans. All the posters were waterproof. Nothing disintegrated, nothing ran. The words, our words, remained. There was nothing "offensive" in anything we said. All we wanted was some recognition of the fact that gay people, conducting a peaceful and earnest effort for freedom and civil liberties, were burned out of the very building whose remains the city was about to enshrine. We wanted them to acknowledge our existence. We also wanted them to examine their consciences. We wanted them to allot funds for the Arson Squad, not the Vice Squad. We also know how far that kind of demonstration will carry us in the eyes of the political power mongers, but there were a few people who listened carefully and maybe we'll get a fair shake from the other media who were present.

Had the sun shone, things might have been very different. We'll never know, but I came as close as I have ever come to being arrested, and it was a very strange sensation for me because I am the kind of person who goes in the "in" door and out the "out" door. I tend to obey rules and follow directions. But if the rules are wrong, somebody has to fight to get them changed, and I must continue to do what I told my mother I had to do last year at the Gay Pride march. I must lend my physical presence to causes that matter to me. Mother had questioned my need to appear and march, saying, "You're only one person," implying, "what difference does it make?" It makes all the difference that can ever be made. If we add each individual to each other individual in an endless chain of caring, we can move mountains, even mountains of fools.

I felt euphoric as I ran back to work from our small demonstration. The building at 22 Bromfield Street in Boston that housed so many memories, whose walls, were they gifted with speech, could utter tales of love and anguish, triumph and disaster, is going to remain as a gloriously ironic monument, to forever exemplify a rare form of architecture and an even rarer form of human endeavor. The thousands of hours of combined effort spent by GCN workers in that building will have a lasting memorial.

I see that building almost every workday. The pain of loss, by the way, has not entirely vanished. It was hard, very hard, to watch men

tossing the charred remains of our shared lives out the windows which used to be our windows on the world. Michael Riegle and I, at different times on the same day, had witnessed this melancholy act. And before we left Bromfield Street today, Nancy Wechsler climbed the familiar stairs one more time and stood silently gazing into the wreckage. My heart went with her. All she said when she came out of the building was, "It was sad." Some things you can't talk about. But the victory is ours. We rise from the ashes. The building that housed GCN for so many years will continue to stand and so will GCN.



Susan Fleischman

CELEBRATION DRAWINGS: ABSTRACT FEMALE EROTICA by Priscilla Proudwoman Stadler will be showing at the Cauldron Experimental Theater, 22 Randolph Street, Boston, through May 22, Friday 3-6 p.m., Sunday 1-4 p.m.

Boston Gay Men's Chorus Spring Songs

Spring Songs Boston Gay Men's Chorus at Jordan Hall, Boston. April 16, 1983.

By Kenneth Hale-Wehmann

Judging from its demand for several encores, most of the audience thoroughly enjoyed this performance by the Boston Gay Men's Chorus. While the chorus is an amateur group, with limited rehearsal time and many novices among its members, it gave a creditable concert.

The success of a concert depends to a great extent on whether the program has been artfully devised; the most significant flaw of this concert was its incoherent program. Why it was called "Spring Songs," aside from the fact that it is Spring, is a mystery. Only one section of the program, called "Stages" after a poem by Herman Hesse and concerned with themes of rebirth, emergence, cycles, and growth, was related to Spring. This was hardly enough to justify the entire program's name.

Music Director Lee Ridgway seems to have agreed; the program notes ignore the season entirely and instead name the folksong as the concert's theme. A group of sea shanties and 8 arrangements of five American traditional songs by Aaron Copland bear this out. But *chansons* by Jacques Brel, a "Te Deum Laudamus" by contemporary Belgian composer Flor Peeters, and Chorus member Howard Rosner's setting of Tennyson and Longfellow poems

hardly qualify as folk music. The notes point out, correctly, that medieval religious music borrowed its themes from folksongs, and Peeter's piece does begin with a Gregorian chant-inspired passage, but this is hardly grounds for folk status.

There were some inspired moments in the evening. One of the sea shanties, "Stormalong, John" (with a fine solo by Dan McDougal), is the eulogy of a shipmate who has just been buried at sea. The song's tender male-bonding and camaraderie were quite touching, and heightened by the fact that 75 gay men were singing it. The "Stages" section was an original and creative combination of separate elements into a pleasing whole. Of the Copland songs, the humorous "I Bought Me a Cat" and the uncomplicated sentiment of "Simple Gifts" were delightfully interpreted; in general, the Chorus' performance was more affecting in the less complex pieces. In its ambitious moments, it suffered from the problems of blending and pitch, a lack of unison and a somewhat muddy tone.

The use of smaller ensembles was effective. The "Stages" segment and the Jacques Brel songs were performed by an ensemble of five men, while a group of ten sang several other pieces. The ensembles allowed for more subtle vocal effects, and were especially appropriate for the chanson and love song. They lent a textural variety

to this concert, giving relief from the wall of voices by virtue of their number and their ability to move around. The ensembles should have received better stage directions; they tried to make up in facial contortions and clenched fists what they lacked in choreography.

We will probably continue to marvel that our openly gay friends are *really* up there on stage in formal wear (and in Jordan Hall even) for some time. It is, after all, a historically unique spectacle that marks a kind of growth and affirmation of the gay male community. But while it is inspiring to see queers on stage, paying scant attention to musical matters would do nothing to gain respect for the BGMC as a serious artistic enterprise. We should be aware of the social significance of a gay performance group, but also remember that it is neither unreasonable to expect competence nor treasonous to criticize; good will in supporting a group by buying tickets can only go so far. The Boston Gay Men's Chorus is an exciting young enterprise, which will benefit from having higher standards applied to its performances. Armed with a more cohesive program, the Chorus can expect larger and more committed audiences.

Those who missed the concert can hear it on WGBH radio (FM 90) in Boston during Gay Pride Week in June.

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WE OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES:

By Nancy A.F. Langer

"I think you have to realize, really now, that the majority of people are not gay in that mass audience out there. If you're a producer and you want to make pictures to make money, you make pictures to appeal to what we call the norm or straight audience. Unless a producer had a wonderful and interesting film, a poignant and understanding story, but they haven't done it, have they?"

—Debbie Reynolds

Debbie's right — Hollywood has made few "understanding" films about gays. As Francis Reed, a California based filmmaker who worked as a cinematographer in Hollywood, says, "The sexism and homophobia within the commercial industry is intolerable. Anti-gay jokes are still standard in the studios. It's hard to survive as a woman there, much less a lesbian." Film critic Vito Russo, who believes the historic resistance to any legitimization of gay relationships onscreen has resulted in a celluloid closet, theorizes that stories that place gays in the mainstream of American life challenge heterosexual hegemony in the arts and in society itself. And while the Hollywood film industry may be full of gays and lesbians, they still remain largely closeted and vulnerable.

According to John Watson of the L.A. Times the reason such films have a tough time getting produced is that closeted gays within the industry obstruct gay projects. But even if closeted gays in the commercial industry haven't overtly blocked positive gay projects, they've acted as self-censors. Today, most openly gay and lesbian filmmakers are working outside of such limiting parameters — in the independent industry. But their new status has presented as many problems as it has solved. The independent industry has its share of homophobia. In fact, when a National Association of Lesbian and Gay Filmmakers was created a few years ago, part of its mandate was to serve as an alternative support network for lesbian and gay filmmakers. The membership of NALGF, like the membership of the Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers (AIVF), still share common problems. Among them — funding, getting their films distributed, and deciding for themselves what films to make.

Finding funding is crucial because films are expensive; *In the Best Interests of the Children* (1977) the documentary about lesbian mothers, was made for a modest \$20,000, but most feature length films necessitate six figure budgets and above. To meet costs, labor must often be donated, which explains why many gay filmmakers double as taxicab drivers, waitresses, and Woolworth clerks.

According to Larry Sapadin, Executive Director of the AIVF, anyone doing something offbeat, whether video, experimental, or gay, is still compelled to get government grants. There is a certain amount of investment going on now in the independent sector, but most money continues to come from state and national art and humanities councils, public TV, and the American Film Institute; and competition for such funds is fierce.

The Corporation for Public Broadcast recently made 20 awards to applicants — 480 other applications were rejected. *Before Stonewall*, a gay history film project received \$130,000 from CPB in 1982, and \$55,000 in other public grants. Howard Petrick, a straight member of the *Before Stonewall* crew believes his heterosexuality helped the project find funding. He said, "I didn't feel I had enough experience with the subject to make a film geared toward a gay audience from an advocacy point of view. Also, I really felt it shouldn't be another *Word Is Out*, but a historical documentary. I think that's what made us attractive to the CPB."

Jan Oxenberg, who is known for her humorous shorts *A Comedy in 6 Unnatural Acts* and *Home Movies*, has gotten a number of government grants when the word lesbian did appear in the proposal. She has also been denied funds on that basis. Oxenberg recalls, "I applied to CPB's script development program and wasn't funded. One of the comments I got back was — the lesbian world is not of interest to the general public. I wrote back and said — I'm sorry, my script is not set in the lesbian world, it's set on earth."

Staff and boards of funding organizations — both public and private — are not immune to the political agendas of the Reagan era. And without pressure and support from the outside encouraging positive gay projects, even the strongest individual and institutional commitments wither and fade. "There simply isn't the kind of bureaucratic atmosphere in Washington now that is able to sustain the pressure social change projects bring with them," confided a gay staff member of the National Endowment for the Arts to GCN. (That staff member asked to remain anonymous.)



Partly as a result of the hostile funding climate, there appears to be a trend towards finding funding within our own community. A half million dollars has been raised, largely from the lesbian and gay community, to make a feature film based on Jane Rule's book *Desert of the Heart*. And in Canada, gay groups have approached filmmakers Gordan Keith and Jack Lemon with bits of money to produce short films for gay dances and events. Lemon believes such relationships between filmmakers and their audiences have the potential to qualitatively change the whole dynamic of community filmmaking. Keith, Lemon, and Harry Sutherland are the makers of *Track Two*, a film about the police raids on the Toronto gay baths.

GAY AND STRAIGHT AUDIENCES

Another issue to resolve is where the market is for positive gay films. Clearly, as long as exploitation films such as *Cruising* and *Personal Best* net profits the studios will grind them out. Says Sapadin, "There's no demonstrated market for non-sensationalistic gay films. It's uncharted territory."

Some filmmakers believe the market for good gay films isn't necessarily homogeneous. "You can reach people in different ways," asserts Rob Epstein, a Berkeley filmmaker. "Our film *Word is Out* seemed successful in reaching gay audiences with the pride element and straight audiences with how much they learned."

Greta Schiller, who is directing *Before Stonewall* believes her film will attract a mainstream crowd. "Before Stonewall is aimed at a general audience because it's a hidden aspect of American history that everyone will be interested in. After all, within general audiences are homosexuals. I think we have to break down the myth that either a film has to be directed to a gay audience or a straight audience." Oxenberg takes a different tack. She believes gay filmmakers have an advantage over other independents in that they appeal, automatically, to a specialized audience. "I guess we've all experienced the tremendous enthusiasm of gay audiences to films that aren't even that good."

It's clear gays and lesbians are hungry to see themselves in the movies. "Gay films have an international market," asserts Jack Lemon. "We are a world minority community." There's ample evidence to support Lemon's optimism. For example, the Oxenberg short *A Comedy in 6 Unnatural Acts* was bought by the National Film Institute of Mozambique and is currently being shown at a festival of political films in Paris. *Pink Triangles*, a Boston made film which in part describes the persecution of gays in Nazi concentration camps, has been shown at the prestigious London Film Festival, the Manheim Festival in Germany, and the Berlin Film Festival.

THE EXTRA BURDEN

If they find funding and determine the audience they hope to reach, filmmakers still must grapple with the political and artistic questions a film's content provokes. Should it entertain, inform or organize? Notes Russo, "Films about gay life, especially those made by openly gay filmmakers, have had the burden of having to redress all the misinformation, the stereotypes and the myths of society that have accumulated through the ages. Every film is expected to be 'the breakthrough film, but it will not happen that way. Gays are realizing, finally, that the myths will be exploded one by one, in small ways, in big films and small films.'"

The political aspirations of our filmmakers are varied and historic. The early German film *Different from the Others* (1919) was used as fodder during the battle against the anti-gay paragraph 175 which outlawed homosexual acts between men. In contrast, Christopher Larkin, the maker of *A Very Natural Thing* (1973) saw romance as the bottom line. "I wanted to say that same sex relationships are no more problematic but no easier than any other human relationships," said Larkin.

Oxenberg is not certain filmmakers must have purely political motivations. "I made films which came out of my own sensibility and own interests — not because I was doing someone else a favor. On the other hand, I had those interests because I was



heavily involved in the lesbian-feminist movement.

Neil Miller, of the *Before Stonewall* project, says "It's important for gay people to see themselves on film and to discover their own past. I've met your gays who have no idea what Stonewall was. Our film not only takes gay history seriously, it makes visible what has been invisible for so long."

Lemon and Keith have yet a different perspective. "Films should be honest and progressive — not so much looking at the past but looking towards the future. We're very strong on change, dynamic change. We see film as having the capacity to expand gay people's consciousness and organize the community around important issues."

This continuing dialogue among filmmakers seems to be taking on another dimension as form itself enters the debate. Isaac Jackson, a New York video artist says, "I haven't gotten much support to do gay tapes. There's been a non-political bias to image

CHOOSING CHILDREN

In the past several years, more and more lesbians have decided to have children after coming out either through pregnancy, adoption or by sharing responsibility for another woman's child. Many people are, at best, unfamiliar with the concept of lesbians choosing motherhood; at worst, many believe lesbians should not have children at all. *CHOOSING CHILDREN: A Documentary Film About Lesbians Deciding to Parent* will challenge these homophobic attitudes and broaden our perspectives on how "family" is defined. Just as importantly, it will address the needs of the lesbian audience by providing information and role models for those thinking about becoming parents.

The film will portray the lives of lesbians who have had children since coming out, focusing on three major areas of concern: the ramifications of different methods of getting pregnant or adopting; the impact on children and lesbian relationships of creating non-traditional families; and strategies for interacting with relatives, employers and medical and educational institutions.

CHOOSING CHILDREN is a project of Women's Educational Media, a non-profit, tax-exempt organization best known for "Straight Talk About Lesbians." Three Boston area women are the producers: Margaret Lazarus, a veteran filmmaker who most recently was part of the collective which made *Pink Triangles*; Debra Chasnoff who has produced documentaries and public affairs programs for public radio; and Kim Klausner who produced *Now That It's Legal*, a documentary about a strike at a woman's health care clinic. Klausner and Chasnoff have interviewed women all over the country who have had kids since coming out and are planning to start filming in July. They are still interested in meeting women, particularly lesbians of color, who are in this situation. They are also interviewing lesbians past childbearing age who did not have kids, to learn how their sexual preference affected their desires and decisions about parenting. The producers welcome help from the community in raising the \$80,000 the film will cost to make. People interested in supporting the project financially or helping to organize benefits and educational forums can contact Women's Educational Media at 46 Bay State Ave #2, Somerville, MA 02144 or call (617) 776-6759.



SUMMER SUPPLEMENT INSIDE

A Letter From Key West

by Will James

Dear Ted:

First of all, I think you should buy a hot tub. The guest house where we're staying has one, and Cal and I spend half our time in it. Even if you have to raise rents, it's worth it—we could all be living a laid back Key West lifestyle in the heart of Jamaica Plain.

Well, anyway, we arrived in Key West just prior to sundown on Tuesday, with a mile-long list of stuff everyone said we *had* to do. The first thing on that list was "watch the sunset from Mallory Square." So, we parked the car, tore over to *Mallory Square*, fought our way through cookie vendors, fire jugglers, puppeteers and hordes of photographers and made it just in time to see an incredibly red sun drop into the sea. Someone in a cute little sailboat obligingly sailed back and forth in front of the sunset so all 750 of us were able to take the same picturesque photograph. That was an intro to Key West.

Our real intro came when we found our guest-house. We've been staying at *Garden House* on Elizabeth St. which is near, but not in, the heart of town. It's very comfortable, inexpensive and small enough that Ed Czaplicki, who owns the place with his lover Dave, was willing to drop his dinner preparations and show us around. He then sat us down at his kitchen table, handed us maps and told us everything about the town's restaurants, bars and discos we would ever need to know. Ed is also a past president of the Key West Business Guild, and a font of info about the town. Did you know that in 1982 1.3 million people stayed in Key West? Me neither. Did you know that 20% were international tourists? Did you know that summer is considered the prettiest time on the island and that it's not hot and humid the way everyone thinks it is?

Hearing all this info got us hot to see more of the town, so after checking out the hot tub we went looking for a place to eat. We wandered through back streets, and it was my first real look at Key West. For such a famous resort, it's surprisingly dilapidated. Those houses that have been renovated are quite charming, neatly painted white or pastel and laced with gingerbread. But many—if not most—are very modest at best, and everything is overgrown with lush, tropical foliage, giving the whole town a faintly decayed, decadent feel. (Which is, someone told me, the whole point of Key West.)

Other people say that the whole point of Key West is to be mellow, laid back and friendly—and it is that. People passing on the street smile and nod "hello." It took us a while to stop snarling back like the catty urban fags we are. People even leave their bicycles on the street unlocked. (Not surprisingly, Ed tells me that bicycle theft is the island's biggest crime problem.)

Eventually we ended up on *Duval St.*, once immortalized in *Ripley's Believe It or Not* as the longest street in the world because it runs from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico. (Which I guess makes it the longest street in the world.) As Key West's main drag, it was largely deserted at 8:00 on a Tuesday night in April. Most people on the street were obviously on the way to somewhere, not bothering to linger as most of the shops close at 6:00. Lots of cars, though, mostly cruising by with stereos blaring, reminding us uncomfortably of reports of anti-gay violence a few years ago. (Actually, it was 1979, and, according to Ed, these reports were greatly exaggerated, largely because of their famous victims. The ten or so troublemakers were quickly caught and prosecuted. While other gay Key West residents were less sanguine, all agreed that Key West natives were, on the whole, very accepting of gay people. "The town would be devastated if the gay tourists left," said Ed.)

At the Atlantic Ocean end of Duval St. we found an elegant restaurant called *The Fountains* which is located in the old Sociedad de Cuba. (People tell you it's located there like you're supposed to know what the hell that was. Every place in Key West is said to have a story, whether it has one or not.) It was half-price night and since entrees are normally in the \$12-\$18 range, we figured that this was our only chance to eat there. As Cal pointed out, the fact that they even have a half-price night shows how exorbitant their prices usually are. Still, the food was quite good, although the portions were small. I had my first taste of Key Lime Pie for dessert, a local delicacy that apparently everyone in the world had heard of but me. Had you told me I would be crazy about something made from sweetened, condensed milk, I wouldn't have believed you, but this pie was fabulous.

After dinner we went dancing at *The Monster Disco* (Front St.), Key West's most famous disco. Certainly it is beautiful—an old brick building with its bars and dance floor open and looking out over a courtyard filled with large trees. It has a wonderful sound system and the worst music I've heard in a long time—third-rate, boring disco. Typically, everyone takes the bad

music in stride, and sometime after midnight, they amble over to *Delmonico's* on Duval ("The music's hot, the men are hot," said Ed) to finish the evening.

Wed. AM we got up, hopped into the hot tub and might have stayed there all morning had we not been interrupted by someone named Captain Ken, who stopped by to tempt us with a cruise on his sailboat, *The Odyssey*. For \$30 he takes groups of ten or so, usually all gay men, out into the Keys for six hours of sun and snorkling—all equipment included. We turned him down, for reasons of time more than anything else, but we did hear from several people that his cruise is quite nice. Boat cruises of varying types—sunset, glassbottom, etc.—are available at varying prices.

Finally spent the AM shopping on Duval St., which has a combination of tacky T-shirt and shell shops and glossy, chic boutiques. Lots of interesting merchandise in the latter, but most of it high priced. Ate lunch at the *Pigeon House* on Whitehead St., which was inexpensive and delicious. Restaurants are rather high-priced in Key West, but as a rule, you can get the same food at lunch, cheaper. *Pigeon House* had large, cool porches to eat on, and very good Key Lime Pie.

Spent the afternoon at the beach—what there is of it in Key West. There's a very small *public beach* at the Atlantic Ocean end of Duval St. Nearby is a beach at the *Sands Hotel* which apparently the public can use. We did, and as near as we could tell, we were the only fags on the beach. It was the kind of beach where you can rent chaise lounges and waitresses will come and take drink orders.

Walked back to the guest house via the town cemetery. Since the island of Key West is made of coral, most of the graves are above ground—to dig holes requires a jackhammer. The monuments range from tawdry to touching, with epitaphs to match, one of which says, "I told you I was sick."

Back at Garden House we sat in the hot tub and drank cheap champagne to refresh ourselves for Tea Dance at *La Te Da's* on Duval St. *La Terraza de Marti* (which is its real name) is a posh-looking guest house and restaurant that has a wonderful Tea Dance from 6-8 on Wed. It's held on the deck next to the swimming pool and has great music, palm trees and people with fabulous tans.

At 8 the music at *La Te Da's* stopped and everyone trooped over to *Papillion* at the end of Simonton St. for their Tea Dance, which is held on a dock out in the ocean. We danced to "It's Raining Men" under the tropical stars and I thought I would die happy. I didn't, so we went on to *Pancho and Lefty's* on Elizabeth St., an inexpensive and very good Tex-Mex restaurant. While we waited for a table, we chatted with a straight couple who had moved to Key West. "It took us all evening to decide whether to come here or do the laundry," said the woman. "That's what we love about Key West, nothing's hurried." The service at *Pancho*

and *Lefty's* certainly wasn't, but the ambiance was friendly and the food good. We finished the evening at the cafe in the *Monster*, where Cal had a delicious piece of chocolate torte. I had Key Lime Pie.

Thurs. AM—Everyone said we had to eat breakfast at the *Rooftop Cafe* on Front St. We had a leisurely breakfast on the large balcony—leisurely because the service was so slow, not because the food was particularly good. While we waited, we debated whether or not to take the Conch Train tour.

I should explain about Conch (pronounced "konk"). Conch are very large shellfish indigenous to the Keys. The fish is made into chowder, and the shells are made into horns or simply cleaned up to sell to tourists for \$2-\$5 and up. People born in Key West are also called Conchs because supposedly that was all the islanders ate at one time. Anyway, the island is lousy with references to conchs and Conchs.

The *Conch Tour Train* is an open-air train that gives a 1½-hour tour of Key West for \$5. It's very popular with the polyester set, and Cal at first refused to go, saying "What if someone we know sees us?" I said, "Don't be silly, no one we know is even here," so we went and saw two people we knew, but Cal was slumped so far down in his seat that they didn't see him. The tour was crammed full of Fun Facts to Know and Tell. For example, did you know that Key West is the southernmost city in the U.S.? I bet you thought all this time that it was Brownsville, Texas. It was a fabulous tour, even if some of the facts had to be stretched to be considered interesting let alone "fun." After 1½ hours of Key West trivia, we'd had enough. We did spot from the train a little stand on Front St. that sold Key Lime Pie, so we bought pieces to take back to the guest house and eat in the hot tub. Then we drove about 40 miles up the Keys from Key West to the beach at *Bahia Honda*, where we are right now, and it's one of the nicest beaches I've ever been to.

Cal and I have been talking over our impressions of Key West. It's a contradictory place. Mellow and laid back, it can also be pretentious and ultra-sophisticated. Proud of its eccentric and slightly raffish reputation, it's also somewhat self-conscious, even self-absorbed. Tourists are warm and friendly, but many of the people who work there are cold and aloof. And for a place with such a clear rep as a gay resort, gay people were much less visible than in many other places.

Still, it's an oddly compelling place. There's something that keeps people going back. We intend to go back, in fact. I asked Ed at one point if he never got tired of being on the island, and he said, "Whenever I feel I have to get off the island for a while, I go up to Orlando and look at what's there. After a day, I can't wait to get back to Key West."

I can't blame him. For one thing, Key West has better pie.

Love & xxx,
Will

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By Eric E. Rofes



Marie Favotto

"I've got my finger on the trigger... love is in control."
—Donna Summer, Summer of '82

On Saturday, May 28, from about 4:00-6:30 in the afternoon over a thousand men and women will flock in and out of the Boatslip, Provincetown's afternoon disco by the bay, and officially launch the start of the Summer of '83 in Provincetown. While tea dances will be held weekends beginning in mid-May, the dance on the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend has attained special significance for many of the loyal crew of patrons of the Boatslip. It is here that one finds friends from summers past and learns who has actually managed to return to Provincetown for another summer. Disco queens face the summer's new music and bemoan the lack of good, high-quality disco music each season. It is here that, despite the calendar, winter officially departs and summer, and all its mysteries, arrives.

The day before, hundreds of men and women make excuses, leave work early, and find themselves speeding 126 miles between Boston and the tip of Cape Cod. Stopping for gas and pastries before crossing the Sagamore Bridge, the air is filled with anticipation and memories of summers past. From throughout the Northeast—and as far away as Key West, Dallas, and Hollywood—gay men and lesbians are travelling by bus, automobile, airplane, train and thumb to this small, isolated fishing village. Some have purchased or rented summer homes, while others will be staying on friends' floors, in hotels, camping areas, and the backs of vans. Not all of them will be there at the tea dance when the strains of the music begin or when this summer's Lord of the Music brings it to a halt promptly at 6:30. But all of them have found a reason and found a way to be in Provincetown for this weekend and for at least a part of the Summer of '83.

"I'm coming out... I want the world to know. Got to let it show."
—Diana Ross, Summer of '81

An analysis of gays and geography might produce some fascinating information. We seem to wander to the ends of the earth to build our havens from hostility and our meccas for music. It somehow seems so American that we pioneer our way to such geographic extremes as Key West at the southern tip of the Florida Peninsula, San Francisco ("Go West, young man"), Fire Island and Provincetown.

Located at the tip of Cape Cod, Provincetown is a small fishing town that, due to geographic and economic factors, does not encourage many people to just "pass through" on the way somewhere else. If you find yourself in Provincetown, it's because that's where you want to be—unless you're simply there to catch a ferry or plane to Boston. This isolation has attracted a

Continued on page 6



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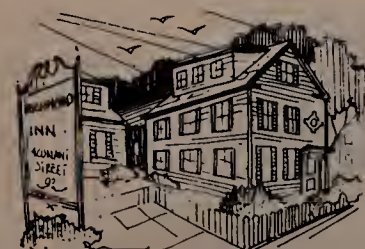
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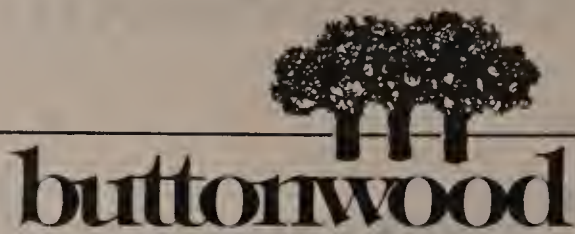
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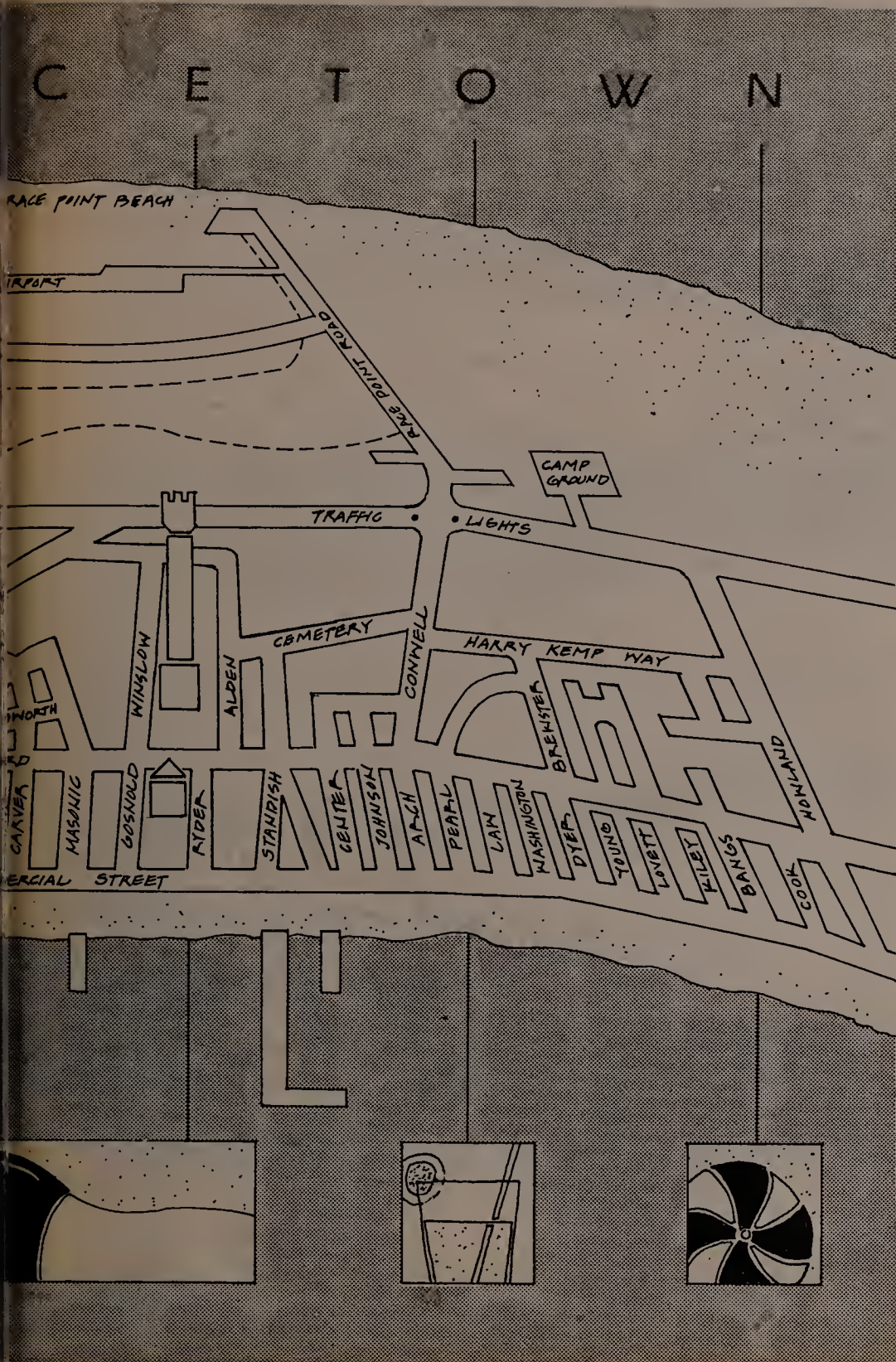
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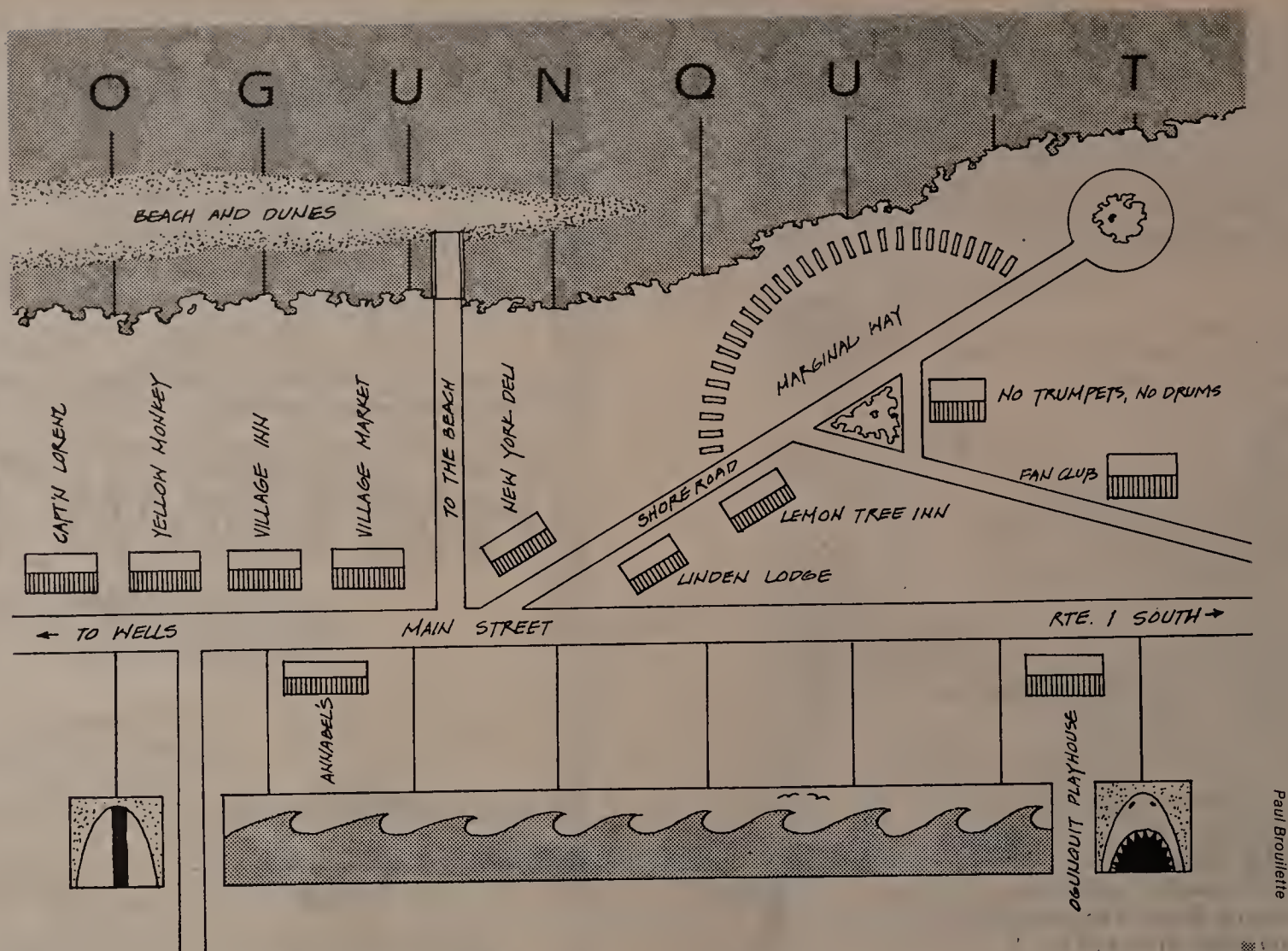
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Jim Prince
Guest Rooms and Efficiencies

Tea Dance

Continued from page 3

unique year-round community, comprised primarily of a native population of Portuguese ancestry and an emigrated population of gays and lesbians. Contrary to what anyone says, gay people have been part of the fiber of this town for years, and are not simply seasonal migrants making an annual shuttle between Key West and Provincetown.

People who vacation in Provincetown also appear to be a unique population. Despite the insistence of some people to the contrary, Provincetown is not at all an exclusive resort for gays; it appears to be accessible to gays of a wider range of income and class than other popular resorts—most notably Fire Island. Provincetown also attracts large numbers of lesbians and has done so for many years. It is one of the few vacation spots in America that offers as much to women as to gay men. Recently, perhaps due to its reputation as a "Live and Let Live" town, straight interracial couples have started enjoying this part of Cape Cod and each fall Provincetown is the site of Fantasia Fair, a wonderful weekend primarily for transvestites and their friends from all over the country.

"We are Family. I got all my sisters and me."

—Sister Sledge, Summer of '79

The Boatslip attracts so many diverse people that it is hard to characterize a Boatslip "type," but, over the years, specific characteristics of this creature have imprinted themselves on the public consciousness. While women, straights and even pets (especially parrots!) appear to be quite welcome at tea dance, gay men certainly make up the bulk of the Boatslip patrons.

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The Boatslip Man, as we will call him, has disco in his blood and, while he is trying hard to become interested in new wave music and current rock music, he dreads the day they ever replace disco as tea dance's primary staple. The Boatslip Man knows the music and the words to all the most popular songs within a week of their appearance on the scene and is particularly sure to let everyone know of his preference for each summer's anthem before the song is firmly entrenched in that position. Once it is known as the song to play as last dance at each tea, he professes his disdain and disgust for the song. (Last summer's anthem, Laura Brannigan's "Gloria," was detested by the entire core group of the Boatslip's tea dancers by July 4th weekend!)

Despite the prevalence of t-shirts with clever, outrageous, or distasteful statements on them (such as "My face seats five," "Local girl makes good," and "Bend down: I'll drive"), the Boatslip Man would not be caught dead in such a shirt and anyway, his pastel-colored tank top is off by 5:15 and tucked firmly into one side of his running shorts. Unlike certain resort discos which have developed a reputation of having only the most beautiful men in the world appearing on

the dance floor, the Boatslip is filled with men of all ages, the beautiful as well as those not traditionally considered to be beautiful. The feeling in the air, the hypnotic quality of the music and the aerobics of the dance cast a spell that makes surface appearances less important than they usually are at gay male environments. People are happy, smiling, flirting together. Attitude is kept outside, on the deck, overlooking the bay.

"I need you by me, beside me, to guide me. To hold me, to scold me, 'cause when I'm bad I'm so, so bad."
—Donna Summer, Summer of '80

The hard-core Boatslip dance crew is all present and accounted for by 5:00 and is capable of dancing right on through until 6:30. They are familiar with the disc-jockey by the middle of June and know what song is likely to be mixed into the closing strains of the last record. Their feet seem to move on their own onto the dance floor whenever anything by Donna Summer,

Eating Out in Provincetown

By Sue Hyde

PROVINCETOWN—Recreational activities in P'town are limited and low-stress. A visitor may choose to hang out on the beach, hang out in town and spend money at any one of a seemingly endless row of tiny shops selling non-essentials or take in some local color at an artistic historical affair. All this relaxation and low key hanging out, though, is bound to stimulate the appetite. On a recent visit to P'town, a panel of GCN diners sampled the fare at two local eateries.

Wanting two distinctly different dining experiences, we spent an evening at Pronto's, a moderately priced Italian restaurant featuring entrees prepared to order. The next evening, we were scouting around for something lighter on the stomach and easier on the pocketbook and found it at the Sea Fox Grille.

Both restaurants are located in the center of town, within easy walking distance of the guesthouses. (But, then, what isn't in P'town?) Pronto's is at Lopes Square, just before the pier, and the Sea Fox Grille is at 186 Commercial Street.

Pronto's is an informal, intimate restaurant, casually appointed and quite comfortable. The opera buff in our crowd identified the background music as Light Neopolitan classics, while the wine buff ordered a bottle of Salapurta Corvo Bianco at \$8.00. The wine list is short, with nothing costing more than \$12.00. It is, however, the sort of list from which an appropriate wine could be found for any dinner on the menu. Pronto's also offers full bar service.

After our waitress informed us that the kitchen was out of the Artichokes Florentine, stuffed with spinach and crabmeat and topped with mozzarella cheese (\$4.95), we selected other appetizers. Although we were unable to taste the artichokes, I am told that it is the appetizer to order at Pronto's. We decided on marinated mushrooms (\$2.75), a Pronto Basket (\$3.95) and a cup of Portuguese kale soup (\$1.25).

The marinated mushrooms were perfect, in a cairn-like pile on a bed of lettuce. Not too soggy and not too shy, the mushrooms were coated with a marinade that had a good oregano bite. The Pronto Basket is an ample portion of deep-fried vegetables served with a light tomato sauce. The veggies were piping hot, cooked all the way through and coated with a light crisp batter. The selection of vegetables was small—only zucchini, eggplant and mushrooms, and the tomato sauce was without inspiration or horseradish. But, overall, the veggies were well-fried and the idea worked. Also on the list are an antipasto platter for two (\$4.95) and a melon and prosciutto plate (\$4.25), neither of which we sampled.

There were two soups, kale and clam chowder. We ordered the kale which was a tomatoey meaty broth with carrots, potatoes, red beans, sausage chunks and, sure enough, kale. It was a hearty soup, the flavors of its ingredients coming through well. A bowl of the kale soup on a cold day would make a filling lunch.

The dinners, excepting the pasta selections, are served with a house salad, which consisted of iceberg lettuce topped with tomatoes, red and white onion slices and garbanzo beans marinated in a tangy oil and vinegar dressing. Although small, the salads refreshed the palate and provided a good crunch between the appetizer and main courses.

Entrées fell into five categories: pasta, chicken, seafood, veal and daily specials from the blackboard. Pasta dishes range in price from \$4.95 to \$7.95 and included old favorites like Alfredo as well as unusual dishes like Pasta Siciliana, with cauliflower, walnuts, raisins and herbs. The other entrees ranged from \$5.95 to \$10.95. Chicken and veal were each served four different ways, but the styles were duplicated in each list—parmigiana, marsala, piccata and dijon mustard. Seafood dishes featured two types of Florentine—shrimp and sole—but were unavailable that evening. Also on the menu are sauteed shrimp, sauteed scallops and a filet of sole broiled with garlic, white wine, herbs and lemon juice.

The entree specials on the blackboard accommodated fresh local seafood, more chicken and veal dishes, an Italian sausage sandwich and a pork chop dish.

We chose Veal con Salsa di Mustarda (\$9.95) from the menu, Chicken en Carozza (\$9.95) and Scallops en Siciliana from the specials list. The veal, though tender enough, was not especially flavorful. The mustard sauce was proper, with good body, and sliced sauteed mushrooms kept the veal company. Chicken en Carozza was an intriguing idea which needed improved execution. A chicken cutlet is breaded and then sauteed, placed in an individual baking dish, topped with slices of ham and sauteed eggplant, covered with tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese and baked until it's brown and bubbly. The problem with the dish, to my palate, was that the ham badly affected the flavor of both the eggplant and the chicken. The ham was canned (it had a square corner); perhaps if

prosciutto had been used, the dish would have realized its potential. The portion was huge, though, and both the veal and chicken were accompanied by a side of linguini with red sauce.

The star of this evening was a variation of Pasta Siciliana listed on the menu. Called Scallops Siciliana, it was a monstrous portion of linguini tossed with a subtle wine sauce, scallops, raisins, walnuts, herbs and parsley. This may seem an unlikely combination of ingredients, but the end result was glorious and diners will be forewarned that gluttony can result from wanting to taste the dish over and over. For \$10.95, it was worth every cent.

Many people say a restaurant can be judged by its coffee. Pronto's makes it easily on that basis as the coffee was great. Our waitress, however, neglected to offer us dessert, an omission I hope she makes only occasionally. The list, for the record, included chocolate rum cake, spumoni, tortoni and creme de menthe parfait.

Our bill for a party of three came to \$50.00 without tip. A trip to Pronto's would probably not be on a lark and would be preceded by some wallet rearranging, but in a town slavish to conspicuous consumption, Pronto's offers imaginative dinners at not outrageously expensive prices.

Just on the other side of city hall, the Sea Fox Grille serves breakfast, lunch and light dinners in a remodeled rathskellar. Open from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m., the ambitious kitchen schedule is more understandable in light of the restaurant's basic good food menu with a few daily dinner specials. With a full bar, the Grille is one of those friendly, inexpensive places to go when the kitchen just can't be faced but expensive dining isn't in the budget.

To sample both lunch and dinner fare at the Grille, our panel of GCN diners ordered a cheeseburger (\$2.75), a salad, soup and sandwich special (\$3.95), a flounder dinner and a baked chicken dinner, both for \$5.95, from the dinner specials list. We also ordered a cup of Portuguese kale soup for \$1.10. The kale soup was exactly like the kale soup at Pronto's, hearty and tomatoey. The Grille's clam chowder was excellent, allowing plenty of room for the subtle flavor of the fresh clams to come to the front of the soup. It was jammed with clams and potatoes and was quite good and simple in its chowderness.

Salads were small, but fresh and tasty, with iceberg lettuce, mushrooms, tomatoes, cucumber and onions. The house dressing is a creamy garlic and mustard

dressing which was so good we wished for larger salads to hold more of it.

The cheeseburger arrived at the table just a bit more blushing than our burger biter had ordered. She reported, however, that it bore up well under the strain of being just underdone. It was topped by Swiss cheese, unfortunately unmelted, and served on a sesame bun, unfortunately untoasted. We were at the Grille on the season's first night of business and some of the missed details were surely due to opening night jitters.

The sandwich ordered with the salad and soup was a basic grilled Swiss, and that's just what it was.

The two dinners were outstanding and for \$5.95 a good deal. The generous portion of flounder had been baked in a wine tarragon sauce with sliced mushrooms. The flavors of the wine and herb combined to make the dish outstanding. Served on the side were mashed potatoes and a peas/corn duet. The potatoes had been mashed with their peels on and then heavily peppered, giving them both an unusual texture and a surprising and pleasant bite. The peas and corn were described as "superfluous" and "listless" by the diners.

The chicken was half a bird, baked to a golden brown with a crunchy honey glaze. The meat was full-flavored, moist and pleasantly like chicken you might make at home. It certainly didn't have that "baked in a restaurant all evening" taste. The fowl was accompanied by the same potatoes and vegetables and both dinners were served with a small dinner salad.

Desserts were fattening and yummy, but the coffee was disappointing. We sampled the carrot cake with a cream cheese frosting and it was moist and deliciously sweet. The grapenut custard—a new one on me—was declared to be authentic and very good. And the Mississippi Mud Cake was so chocolatey that I thought for a moment I was back in St. Louis on the banks of the Big Muddy.

Our bill for four, excluding beer and cocktails, was about \$26.00, certainly within range for impulse dining. The menu allows a great deal of flexibility as most items are available a la carte.

The owners said that their upstairs dining room, seating 60 people in formal style, will serve fresh local seafood and pasta dishes from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. beginning May 10. All soups and desserts are made on the premises. The Sea Fox Grille is worth checking out—morning, noon or night—for good food at reasonable prices.



Marie Favorito

Tea Dance

Continued from page 6

Diana Ross, Gloria Gaynor or, now, Laura Brannigan is played and they are adept at switching pronouns (which is rarely necessary since all the singers appear to be women singing to men), and gleaning the sexual innuendo in the most subtle of lyrics. They dance with one another and with everyone and no one, in a mass celebration of music, men and the summer season. The air fills, these days, more with sweat and steam than with poppers, and the sounds of whistles, shrieks, and tamborines punctuate the beat of the music.


Other men and women occupy the rest of the dance floor, coming off the beach in sandy beach drag or running home first to shower and change into evening attire (alligator shirts, chinos, sensible shoes). Waiters working the evening meal rush in at 4:00 to get a little dancing in before work begins and salesclerks working 9-5 appear in droves at 5:30 to dance the day out of their systems. While the "Big Three" holidays of the summer—Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day—generally feature the largest and wildest tea dances (as has been said elsewhere, on these days someone always gets thrown into the pool), from mid-June through early September teas are packed with people in all stages of dress and undress—locals, tourists, summer residents, day-trippers, waifs and wanderers.

"If you wanna funk let me show you how. Do you wanna funk with me?" —Sylvester, Summer of 1982

The Boatslip's tea dance has become a daily community ritual. Conveniently located towards the West End of Provincetown, it is a short walk from both Herring Cove Beach and Tom's Beach, the vast stretches of sand at the end of the jetty at the Provincetown Inn rotary. It has replaced the earlier ritual of singing show music and piano songs at Moors after the beach, and it fills an odd time period which would otherwise be spent sleeping, making love or reading trashy summer novels.

As the first strains of music come from the Boatslip on May 28, dreams of the summer ahead and memories of the past summers wash through the crowd—the summer love affair which began with a glimpse through the crowd at a tea dance; the day a wild young man was lifted by a circle of men into the air and spun continually around like a star; the weeks of rain last summer as we danced to "Stormy Weather" ("It's Raining Men" inconveniently didn't arrive until the fall). During a year when we're returning to Provincetown to hear news of friends throughout the country who are diagnosed AIDS victims, tea dance at the Boatslip is a bright ritual to which we're happily about to return.

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rocessing — and when you explore that field how
u've done something and not what you've said is
en as important." Jackson, who also works with
VF, sees a synthesis of the documentary film style
d image processing as a powerful political and
sthetic combination. He explains, "Image pro-
ssing gives us a new vocabulary. Now we have to
cide what to say with it. A new tape I just saw
ed computer graphics to tell a story of Haitian re-
gees. Another by Shegato Kabuto used a video
thesizer to describe the experience of Navajo
omen. One of the things I want to do is bring to-
ther my documentary radio work on black gay
en and combine this with image processing to
ke a videotape on Third World Gays."

RESPONSIBILITIES

What emerges from discussions with gay and les-

bian independents around the country is an exciting
range of film projects now in progress — from the life
of Harvey Milk to AIDS, gay seniors to lesbian love.
But if such independent productions promise truer
reflections of our lives, they also represent responsi-
bilities the larger lesbian and gay community must
acknowledge.

Like it or not, government money for the arts has
gotten the ax, and in a moral majority era gay pro-
jects can expect very little of what's left. For those
filmmakers and video artists who are less "main-
stream" — who have controversial, experimental,
gay, feminist or Third World focuses — there is even
less hope of government grants. This means that if
the lesbian and gay community wants to see such
projects produced they have to cough up some
backing. Finding funding is going to remain prob-
lematic — particularly for lesbian and Third World
filmmakers who have less access to money — but in-

creased community support offers the most hope for
challenging and diverse lesbian and gay films in the
future.

The relationship is reciprocal — our filmmakers
also have a responsibility to us. Filmmakers must
recognize the power of their medium and use it
wisely. A good movie can politicize an audience and
can even be used as an organizing tool. Whether
documentary, drama or comedy, film or video, all
media is propaganda as much as it is art. Hollywood
has used its power in schlock and high brow films
alike to preach some pretty vile sermons. Now we
have our own filmmakers. And while we can't ex-
pect everything from any one film, we can support
filmmakers who utilize gay liberation, feminist, anti-
racist, and anti-classist perspectives in their work
and support us as we take control of our future. We
need each other.



BEFORE STONEWALL



Photo: Allysn Smith

Before Stonewall. L. to R. Jan Stott, Neil Miller, Mindy Cohen, Velle Gomez

In the '50s," says Greta Schiller, Director of
Before Stonewall, "it was state law almost every-
where that if a woman didn't wear at least three
pieces of women's clothing she could be arrested for
personating a man. Woman entertainers who
worked as men had to have permits."

Part of gay and lesbian organizing has always been
working out our history. Now, *Before Stonewall*, a
project funded in part by the Corporation for
Public Broadcast, will focus on recording our past.
The movie depends heavily on visual evidence —
the movies, photographs, magazine covers, post-
cards, love letters, journals, scrapbooks and periodi-
cs.

John Scagliotti, the film's Executive Producer,
says, "We have a number of fine written histories
of our community — for example Jonathan Katz's
American History. But, unfortunately, much of
what can be included in a book isn't appropriate for
film because it's essentially not visual. Film depends
on images. That's what we need most of all, more
money or publicity; we need people to look
under their beds, and in their attics, and on their
faces for the visual evidence of our lives prior to
1969."

In addition, anyone who has good stories to tell
from the old days, or who remembers important
events or personalities is urged to contact *Before
Stonewall*. Schiller adds, "The drag queen down the
block who's been around since World War I, your
dear great uncle, these are the people we need
to talk to. We're especially interested in people who

usually go unremembered, those who were severely
closeted or simply not active in the movement." If
you have artifacts or would like to be interviewed,
the New York contact is Greta Schiller, at (212)
582-4425. In San Francisco, contact Howard Petrick
at (415) 543-2322.

The film will also interview activists like Harry
Hay, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, look at gay life
during W.W. II, detail the development of the
homophile movement and portray the McCarthy
Era. "Gay life is an important aspect of American his-
tory that's been ignored," states Scagliotti. "We
believe our film will be an education for the entire
American public."

Before Stonewall needs to raise additional funds in
order to complete this project. Contributions, which
are tax deductible, can be sent to *Before Stonewall*
Project, 630 Ninth Ave., Suite #908, New York, New
York, 10036.

SILENT PIONEERS

Four independent filmmakers have come together
to create a television documentary on the lives of
older lesbians and gay men. "Gay Seniors: *The Silent
Pioneers*" will feature interviews with several older
lesbians and gay men and attempt to make some
generalizations about the lives of the estimated two
million lesbians and gay men 65-or-more-years-old.
The half-hour long program is being developed for
national prime time broadcast on public television
accompanied by local telephone call-in programs in
communities throughout the country.

The filmmakers are searching for women and men
who would be interested in being profiled in *The
Silent Pioneers*. A concerted effort is being made to
contact such persons in rural areas, says executive
producer Pat Snyder, former producer at WNET, a
public television station in New York City. Snyder
anticipates these lesbians and gay men will, of
necessity, be the best concealed, and therefore the
most difficult to reach.

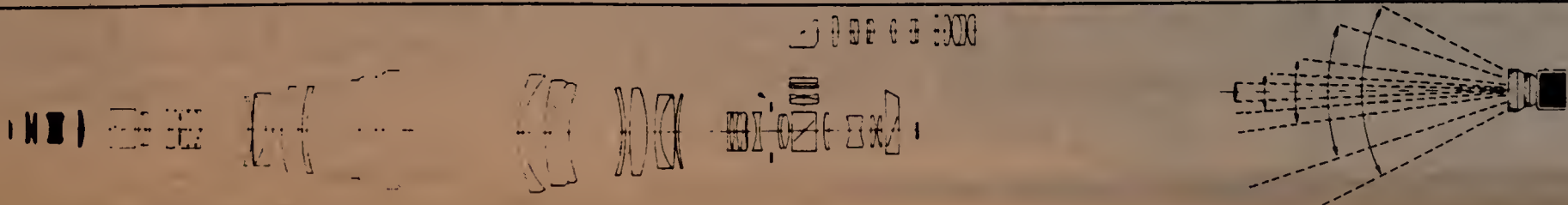
The Silent Pioneers will examine many legal, socio-
psychological and political problems that straight
society creates for older lesbians and gay men such
as the denial of hospital visitation rights to non-
related couples and battles over the wills of lesbians
or gay men who bequeath possessions to their

lovers. Many people have also had to cope in silence
with loneliness and bereavement after the loss of a
life long companion.

Advising the filmmakers on this project is Senior
Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE), the first
organization created to serve the older lesbian and
gay male community in New York City. "We are
very excited about the potential of the film to raise
public awareness about the unique problems and
concerns of older gays, to help call attention to the
courageousness of these silent pioneers, and to
demonstrate to gay seniors themselves that they
have a past and present of which they can be
proud," comments Audrey Seidman, co-chair of the
SAGE Board.

Co-directors/producers of the film are Lucy
Winer, who co-directed *Greetings from Washington*
and is co-directing a documentary, *Rated X*; Harvey
Marks, who is currently producing a film on Ac-
quired Immune Deficiency Syndrome for the Public
Broadcasting System; and Paula Derkoenigsberg,
who is the co-director and cinematographer of
Rated X. Although none of the four are "seniors,"
they hope to involve older lesbians and gay men
from around the country in the production of the
film.

Persons interested in providing information or in
being interviewed should contact the producers c/o
Pioneer Productions, 112 West 72 Street, Room 9-B,
New York, New York, 10023. The filmmakers are
also seeking funding contributions for the film,
which will cost \$60,000 to produce. Two non-profit
organizations, the Film Fund and SAGE, are serving
as fiscal agents for the film; tax-deductible gifts can
be made to either group. Contributions can be sent
to: The Film Fund/*Silent Pioneers*, 80 East 11th
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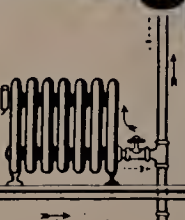
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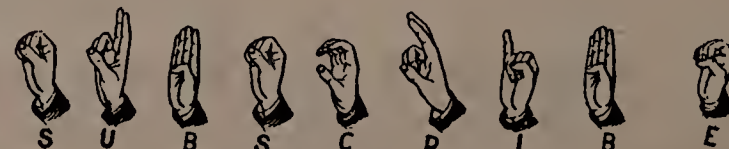
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It looks like a big commercial garage,
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over the years, they kept learning new
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equipment on Dodge Darts and
Plymouth Valiants, those classics of
reliability. But they're ready for
anything and did most of the work on
the antique vehicles for the movie
"The Brinks Job."

(Reprinted from Real Paper, "Best of Boston," Fall, 1980)

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Anarchist).



This prison is very anti-gay and I catch
a lot of hell. Some of the staff look at
me like I'm an animal, but I'm just a ted-
dy bear really (smile). So if you have
some spare time write a lovable, lonely
butch. Zola BENNETT, 1479 Collins
Ave, Marysville OH 43040.

Lonely butch seeks sincere fem to cor-
respond with. I'm 29 and prefer younger
womyn, but I will be delighted to cor-
respond with womyn of any age, race, etc.
I've been so long without a righteous
womyn. Robin Shawnee JACKSON,
600728, Box A (SMU), Oakdale, IA
52319.

Being black, female, gay, and a convict
is a bit much for prejudiced minds to
handle, but it should not be a handicap
for those sharing some of those
qualities. I'm looking for sensitive, in-
telligent, strong-minded women to
correspond with. I am a six foot Leo
woman into writing and spiritual ex-
ploration. Send some sweet stories and
intellectual conversation and you'll
receive the same. Henee HOLMES,
13415, 1479 Collins Ave., Marysville,
OH 43040.

GCN GAY AND LESBIAN PRISONER PROJECT

We send free papers, books (when they
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ads. (There's sometimes a long waiting
list because of limited space.) Little by
little as we get more volunteer labor
power we'll be looking for other ways to
support lesbians and gay men behind
bars. If you can help with your time or a
contribution (of money or paperbacks),
please send to Gay and Lesbian
Prisoner Project, c/o GCN, 167 Tremont
St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111. Thanks!

I'm 25, Native American and a dyke. I'm
looking for friends who are interested
in helping to change the prison system
from warehouses to places of learning
and growing. I am also an artist and
play the guitar. Catherine
CASTANEDA, 43375, ACTC-P-Santa
Maria, Box 3400, Goodyear AZ 85338.

Very much interested in writing others.
Hobbies are art, phys ed, exotic mat-
ters, movies and writing. Ronnie Lee
BEVERLY, 25330, 168 BR Cell 1, Box 33,
Terre Haute, IN 47808.

Lonely lesbian prisoner seeking les-
bians in the free world to correspond
with. Chris NEELEY, Box 1000,
Talladega AL 35160.

Lonely, sensitive male wishes to cor-
respond with anyone with understand-
ing. Enjoys reading, music. Am
amateur poet song-writer. Isaac SMITH,
87090, Camp J Cuda 4L9, Angola LA
70712.

I am 26 and single. I love to read books
and am looking for a companion to
write regularly. Steven OTTO, CCC Box
220, Hominy OK 74035.

Anyone out there that ever felt lonely
will know how I feel. I am 35 years old
and in need of a friend. Randal REID, 80
A 2805, Box 367, Dannemora NY 12929.

Interested in a forreal relationship. I
have a sweet disposition, no trouble
with looks. I've been into hairstyling for
20 years and hope to reestablish,
hopefully in the Boston area. Dennis
LOCKWOOD, 100373, Box 500, Boynton
VA 23917.



Basically mellow guy with varied in-
terests including NAMBLA, flying cam-
ping, etc. SASE helpful. Thomas
ANDERSON, 115426, Box 220, Hominy
OK 74035.

Gay man would like to correspond with
someone on the outside. Albert
GAGNE, 30 Admin Rd, Bridgewater MA
02324.

My name is David, but all my life they
have called me Lisa. I'm a transsexual. I
love movies, music and singing. I wish
to correspond with some true friends.
David SANTIAGO, 82 A 3138, Box 149,
Attica NY 14011.



NOTE TO PRISONERS: If you have writ-
ten something for our prisoner space
and are wondering when it will appear,
the word is that when we go to 20
pages, the prisoner project will have
some space every week (instead of
every other week like now) and then
your pieces will begin to appear. This
should be in June or July.

Prisoners getting books from GCN
might like to send a note of thanks (if
you have the extra postage; don't worry
about it if you don't) to Fred Welch,
P.O. Box 447, Palo Alto, CA 94302. He's
been sending us a lot of stamps to send
out books with.

I'm Spanish, but I also speak Greek,
Italian and some English. I would like
so much to write to someone. Thank
you. Benjamin RAMOS, 92800, Oak 3,
Angola LA 70712.

I would like to write to someone, but
what I really need is legal advice and in-
formation. So if anyone can help me
with info about discrimination against
gays in employment, harrassments,
and institutional punishment that's
cruel and unusual, please write Don
PATTON, 33987, Box 2800, Lincoln NE
68502.

Prisoners Seeking Friends

Readers (inside and out): Almost all ads
are taken from much longer letters
which we cannot print in full in the free
space GCN has provided. Even so,
there's usually a waiting list of 3 to 6
weeks and ads usually only run once or
twice (unless we can't get new ones
done because of other work).

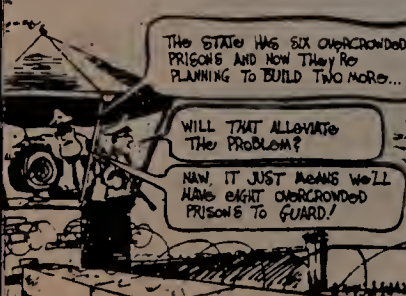
Interested in corresponding with a
transsexual person. Pre-op OK. There is
always the possibility of a permanent
friendship of some kind. Miguel BIEGH,
Drawer B, 78 A 2283, Stormville NY
12582.

Exotic gay male into leather and light
slaps. Would like to build a meaningful
relationship with someone on the out
side. Billie LA MUNYON, B-80717, Box
A-E, SLO, CA 93409.

Virgo, been down for a while and have
no one, seeking correspondence with
mature, sincere, open-minded people of
any race. Maurice SMITH, C-13874,
K-102, Box 400, Tracy CA 95376.

Would like to correspond with bi men
and women, however gay folks would
also be great! There's nothing like a let-
ter to dull the cutting edge of
loneliness. In solidarity. Stephen
HAMER, 49679, SCC Box 999, Canon
City CO 81212.

Young lover desires letters from males
with extremely feminine tendencies.
TVs and transsexuals are my loves.
Justine HILCHRIST, B-61442, Box B,
Represa, CA 95671.



Bisexual man looking for friendship
and a chance to write someone on the
outside. I'm studying history and am in-
to sports and people. James D.
YEAGER, 03484-079, Box 1000,
Lewisburg, PA 17837.

I like the GCN, and we can get them
because we filed suit against this
prison last year and I will share the
paper with friends here. I would like to
receive letters from gays 16 and up.
Thanks. James L. CANNON, 129759,
3rd floor, Reidsville GA 30499.

I'm indian. But love all walks of life.
Real lonely. Please write. Love penpals.
Roger D. EMMANUEL, 977 Camp Rd.
Salisbury, NC 28144.

Lonely, depressed homosexual
presently incarcerated is seeking cor-
respondence thru the mails. Danny
MYERS, 167-396, Box 69, London OH
43140.

38 year old Libra, lonely and gay Italian
prisoner, full beard, weighing 225, look-
ing for a serious relationship with a
very femm or transvestite gay. Michael
DIORIO, 74A 1851, Box B, Dannemora
NY 12929.

22, black hair, brown eyes, good build,
enjoys music, reading, swimming, a
quiet evening with good wine, Alberto
MILIAN, 078010, D-11, Box 158, Lowell
FL 32663.

I know how to make love and to make
some one happy. I'm 37 and have brown
hair and black eyes. Jimmy LONDON, T
1995, Drawer K, Dallas PA 18612.

25, french active and passive, greek ac-
tive. I like camping, motorcycles, travel-
ing and small get togethers. Richard
VALENTINE, C57095, 5229, Box A, SLO
CA 93409.

ATTENTION: Josie from Michigan that
wrote to Keith Capezio, C39376, Rm
6256, Box A, SLO, CA 93409. I got your
letter and loved it but there was no
return address inside or out. Please
write again. (ED.NOTE: Keith, try this:
Joseph Henry, A-155459, 777 W. River-
side Dr., Ionia MI 48846.)

On death row at 24. I'll write to anyone
who'll write to me. Frankie GUINAN,
Box 900, CP-18, Jefferson City MO
65102.



Calendar

weekly events

sunday

Boston, MA — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY) drop-in center for youth 22 and under from 3:30-5pm at Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill). Info: 497-8282. Please send all BAGLY mail to: GCN, Box 10GY.

Cambridge, MA — Black and White Men Together of Boston meets at Paradise, 180 Mass. Ave. Second Sunday of each month. Info: Tom 536-3392 or Dick 247-3043.

Boston, MA — Lesbian Only SM Support Group. Potlucks and informal discussions one Sunday per month. Info: 776-7957. Open to lesbians supportive of or into SM.

Cambridge, MA — Overeaters Anonymous, lesbian meeting Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. Sun eves 7:30 pm. DOB office.

Framingham, MA — Tricounty Assoc. (Framingham, Milford, Franklin area). Social and support group for gay and lesbian community. Meets Suns. Info: 376-4323 or 473-3529.

Boston, MA — "Musically speaking," women's music, ideas, announcements. WMBR, 88.1 FM. 1-3pm.

Boston, MA — Gay and Lesbian Physicians of New England. Second Sundays. 2pm. Info: (617) 482-6874 or 247-5485.

Boston, MA — Merrymount Music Society. Informal meetings and concerts for gay and lesbian musicians and music lovers. Info: 266-9423.

West of Boston, MA — West of Boston Lesbians. Social events on Sunday afternoons twice a month. New members welcome. Info: 486-8848, or Dorothy 875-1108.

Boston, MA — Boston's Other Voice. (WROR, FM 98.5) 11:30pm.

Concord, NH — Concord Area Gay Youth support group for youth 16-22. Rap session and social time. Info: Ron 225-5622.

Keene, NH — Potlucks and other fun get-togethers for lesbians. First Suns (2pm) and third Tues or Wed (6pm). Info: Keene Klondykes, Box 261, Gilsum NH 03448.

Central VT — Central Vermont Gay Men (CVGM) meets first Sun. of the month for socializing, business and a meal. Info: Box 42, Barre. n5641

Orleans, MA — Shoreline, a social group alternative to the bars on Cape Cod, meets second Sundays. Info: Box 1614, Orleans, MA 02653.

Acton, MA — Central Middlesex Social Club meets at 7:30pm. Info: 263-4882. All are invited.

coming events

Boston, MA — Free lunchtime (12-1) drop-in support group for men concerned about AIDS. Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services, 80 Boylston St. Rm 855. Corner of Boylston and Tremont Sts. Info: 542-5188.

Boston, MA — The Aids Action Committee is looking for volunteers for their soon to be operating Hotline. To receive an application and notice of upcoming training session call 536-4995.

Boston, MA — The Boston Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee will meet every Thurs. eve at 7pm until June 18 (Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration/March) to organize entertainment, fundraising, publicity, etc. for the events. Everyone welcome. Boston Evening Clinic, 314 Comm. Ave. (near Aud. T stop). Info: 262-4777.

Boston, MA — The Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee '83 is sponsoring an Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday June 11th from 11am to 5pm at the Arlington Street Church Parish Hall, 355 Boylston. All artists or craftspeople in the community are encouraged to participate as exhibitors and/or vendors. Those interested in reserving table space, please call Ellen at 661-6015.

Boston, MA — The Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee '83 is sponsoring an Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday June 11th from 11am to 5pm at the Arlington Street Church Parish Hall, 355 Boylston. All artists or craftspeople in the community are encouraged to participate as exhibitors and/or vendors. Those interested in reserving table space, please call Ellen at 661-6015.

New London, CT — Gay and Lesbian Community at Connecticut College meets 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Info: 442-7458.

Northern VT/NH — League of Gays (LOGS) meets Thurs. Info: (802) 626-3618 or write: Box 703, St. Johnsbury VT 05819.

monday

Waltham, MA — Triskelion, the Brandeis Gay/Lesbian Coalition. General discussion group at 9pm. Usdan Student Ctr. Conf. Rm. C. Info: 647-4353, or Box 2792, Brandeis U., Waltham, 02254.

Nashua, NH — Nashua Area Gays meet 8pm. Info: Tony 424-3252, or write: Nashua Area Gays, Box 3472, Nashua 03061.

Portsmouth, NH — Seacoast Gay Men. 7pm. Info: P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03801.

tuesday

Cambridge, MA — Boston chapter, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets 1st Tue of the month in conference room 1A Sherrill Hall Library, Episcopal Divinity School 99 Brattle. Info: 436-5393 or P.O. Box 125-S101, Arlington, MA 02174.

Boston, MA — Urania: lesbian and bisexual women's SM support group. Safe, non-competitive space for women of all levels of experience to share political and personal aspects of our sexuality. 131 Cambridge St. 7:30pm. Info: Hathor 623-7258.

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis. Discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. (Harv. Sq.) 8pm. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Info: 661-3633

Pittsfield, MA — Berkshire County Gay Coalition meets 2nd and 4th Tues. Info: (413) 442-7772.

Hartford, CT — Greater Hartford Lesbian and Gay Task Force meets at Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 7pm (First Tues.) Info: 249-7691.

Manchester, NH — Manchester Men's Group, weekly support group for gay and bisexual men, meet Tuesdays at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. Info: Jack 669-0096.

New London, CT — New London Gay Men's Forum, support group for gay and bisexual men. Info: 447-0155 (Noon to 7pm).

Portland, ME — Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous meeting at First Parish, Unitarian. 425 Congress St. 8 pm. Open to all.

Brattleboro, VT — Southern Vermont Lesbian and Gay Men's Coalition meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Common Ground Restaurant, 25 Elliot St. 7:30pm.

wednesday

Boston, MA — Fathers in Transition, a group of gay/bi fathers meeting Weds. for friendship and support. Info: Exodus Ctr. 266-0612, or write: Fathers in Transition, c/o GCN Box 6, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111.

may 17 tues

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mt. Club. After-work bird watching. Info: Peter 623-5368.

18 wed

Boston, MA — AIDS Education Evening, sponsored by Chiltern Mt. Club, with Dr. John Mazzullo, Jim Fishman, and Rhonda Linde of the Aids Action Committee. 7:30pm. Hill House, 74 Joy St. (Beacon Hill). \$1 suggested donation. Info: John 864-0823.

19 thurs

Boston, MA — GCN proofreading. Come read next week's news this week! Info: 426-4469.

Springfield, MA — Working With Sexual Minorities. A day long seminar led by Father Paul Shanley. Info: (413) 782-3111.

20 fri

Boston, MA — GCN VOLUNTEER NIGHT!! Come help send out the paper to our subscribers. Refreshments and good times! Come anytime after 6 to our space at 167 Tremont (near the Boylston T stop). There's an intercom at the door if it's not open. Come and get a free paper and meet some nice people! Info: 426-4469.

Boston, MA — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY). New persons' meeting 6:30pm; general meeting and group discussion 7-9pm. For youth 22 and under. Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill) Info: 497-8282.

Boston, MA — Boston Gay Men's Chorus meets every Wed. from 7-10pm at the YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. (Copley Sq.) Info: 522-6983.

Boston, MA — Walk-in VD screening and treatment for and by gay men. 6:30-8pm. Fenway Community Health Center, 16 Haviland St. (near Auditorium stop). 267-7573.

Boston, MA — Lunchtime for lesbians. Isolated during the workday downtown? Interested in a lunchtime hangout/discussion group? Come to 80 Boylston St. Rm 855 (corner Boylston and Tremont). Noon. Info: 542-5188.

Boston, MA — Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA) meeting. 7:30-9:30pm. New members welcome. Help make the media more responsive to our needs. Info: 542-5679.

Bridgewater, MA — South Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance meets Weds. Info: 584-4997.

Cambridge, MA — Lesbian "coming out" group, new weekly open rap group, is now meeting at Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq.) 8-10pm. Info: 354-8807

Cambridge, MA — Daughters of Bilitis. 35+ women's discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. 8pm. Second Wed. and last Fri. of each month.

Hyannis, MA — Lesbian Support Group meets first Wed of every month. 7:30pm. New members welcome. Orientation, social meetings. Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St. Info: 771-6739.

Nashua, NH — Greater Nashua Area of NH Lambda sponsors speakers and/or raps on the 2nd Wed. and 4th Thurs. 7:30pm. Business meets on 1st Sat. Info: (603) 889-1416.

Hartford, CT — Lesbian AA meeting. Hill Ctr. 350 Farmington Ave. 8pm. Info: 247-8797.

Hampden County, MA — Social/Support Group for Lesbians. 8pm. Info: Debbie 532-5878 or Julie 532-4959.

Canine, MA — Narcotics Anonymous Gay Meeting. 7 Temple St. (Central Sq.) 8:30-10pm. A twelve step recovery program for those whose "drug of choice" was other than alcohol.

Cambridge, MA — Boston National Organization for Women (NOW) Lesbian Rights Task Force meets 4th Wed. of month at 99 Bishop Allen Dr. (Central Sq.) Plan lobbying, public educ. and consciousness raising. Info: 661-6015.

thursday

Cambridge, MA — Lesbian Liberation, an open discussion group. 8-10pm. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807.

Somerville, MA — TV/TS Peer Support Group. Gender Clinic. Info: Martha 666-8280.

Cambridge, MA — Lesbians with children. Support group. 8-10pm. Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mt. Club. Randolph NH hiking and white water canoeing week. Info: Bliss (613) 883-5583.

Cambridge, MA — Ain Tikva. Program on Anti-Semitism featuring a showing of the film "Gentlemen's Agreement". MIT Student Union, Mass Ave. 3rd floor lounge. Wheelchair accessible. \$3. Info: 782-8894.

Cambridge, MA — Libana, a women's chorus will celebrate women's music and dance of Celtic, Eastern European and other origins. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. (Harvard Sq.) 8pm. \$5.50 (\$4 for unemployed and elders).

21 sat

Dorchester, MA — All People's Concert: an evening of multicultural theater, music, dance and poetry, including Wallflower Order members, New Women's Chorus, and Rosario Morales. 7:30pm. Strand Theater, 534 Columbia Rd. \$6. Info: 424-1176.

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mt. Club. Garden in the woods. Framingham Ma. Info: Charlie (617) 648-9185.

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mt. Club. Nissitisset River Flatwater trip. Info: Mike (617) 327-6480.

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mt. Club. Full-tilt birding II. Info: Peter 623-5368.

Northampton, MA — Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance meets on first and third Thursdays at the Unitarian Society, 220 Main St. 7:30pm. Info: (413) 584-7903 or write P.O. Box 181, Northampton, MA 01061.

Hartford, CT — Gay Al-Anon meeting for lesbians and gay men at Trinity Church Parish House. Farmington Ave. 7:30pm. Info: 247-8797.

friday

Boston, MA — GAY COMMUNITY NEWS (THAT'S US!) ALWAYS NEEDS HELP SENDING OUT THE PAPER ON FRIDAY EVES. COME BY FOR A FEW HOURS TO OUR NEW SPACE AT 167 TREMONT (ON THE COMMON, NEAR BOYLSTON T STOP) ANYTIME, AFTER 6 AND LEND A HAND. REFRESHMENTS AND GOOD TIMES! EVERY BODY WELL COME! INFO: 426-4469, THANKS!

Cambridge, MA — Amazon Lesbian Al-Anon Mt. Auburn Hosp. Living Rm, Clark Bldg. 8-9:30pm. Newcomers meeting from 7-8pm on the first Friday.

Danbury, CT — The Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Greater Danbury meets on Fridays from 7:30 to 10pm in the Green Room of the First Congregational Church, corner of Deer Hill Ave. and West St.

Hartford, CT — Your Turf, a weekly drop-in center for lesbian and gay teenagers. 7-9pm at the Hill Center, 350 Farmington Ave. (upstairs). Sponsored by the Coalition of Sexual Minorities.

Pittsfield, MA — Weekly meetings of Lesbians United. Info: Women's Services center. 499-2425.

Concord, NH — Concord Men's Group meets Fridays at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. Info: Herb 485-5612.

Providence, RI — Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth meets every Sat. from 1-5pm for youth 14-21 years of age. Info: MCC 272-9247 or Gay Helo Line 751-3322 (eves).

saturday

Providence, RI — Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth meets every Sat. from 1-5pm for youth 14-21 years of age. Info: MCC 272-9247 or Gay Helo Line 751-3322 (eves).

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mt. Club. Regularly scheduled sports and outdoors events. General info: John 275-1336; Linda 734-4066; John 864-0823. Volleyball: Jay 262-4896; Basketball: Kieran 232-7229.

Boston, MA — Front Runners/Boston, gay men and lesbian running club. Info: 39 Milford, Boston 02118 or 451-6364.



Boston, MA — Gay Professional Men's Group meeting at the Hill House, 74 Joy St. (Beacon Hill). Officers of Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance will speak about gay political clout in Boston. 8pm. A-K bring drink; L-Z bring food. Donation.

22 sun

Boston, MA — The Second Wave presents an afternoon of feminist poetry and music, with Karen Lindsey and Betsy Rose. 2pm. Arlington St. Church. \$5 to benefit Second Wave.

Boston, MA — Chiltern Mt. Club. Two events: Topsfield Audubon Sanctuary. Info: Charlie 648-9185; and Aberjona and Mystic Rivers Canoe Trip. Info: Bruce 926-3474 or Wayne 437-2762.

Boston, MA — Committee forming to plan a conference on Lesbian Psychologies for 1984. 5-7pm. Seeking participants from all segments of the lesbian community and from other women who are interested in these issues. Info: (617) 227-4373. Conference sponsored by New England Association for Women in Psychology.

23 mon

Cambridge, MA — Discussion with representatives from Boston area women-operated printing/publishing companies. Sponsored by Women Printers. Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 8pm. Info: 524-4199.

The deadline for Calendar items is Monday at noon for the following issue.....